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Report: Plea-bargain reached in Lerner trial

Zvi Ben-Ari, who is suspected of fraud and bribery totaling more than \$100 million, is expected to plead guilty to 13 of 15 charges today as part of a plea bargain, according to weekend media reports. In exchange, Jerusalem District Court is expected to fine him NIS 5 million and sentence him to five to seven years in prison.

Ben-Ari (aka Gregory Lerner) allegedly attempted to set up a Russian-Israeli bank which authorities feared would be used to launder money. He allegedly defrauded Russian banks of some \$106m.

The charges that are to be dropped or lessened under the plea-bargain, reportedly have to do with defrauding the Russian banks.

Ben-Ari also is suspected of attempting to bribe Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, former prime minister Shimon Peres and Labor MK Nissim Zivili and of bribing former Labor MK Gideon Saguy in connection with his attempt to set up the bank.

Ben-Ari's lawyer Yoram Sheftel has argued that his client was the victim of an "organized campaign" by Israeli prosecutors and Russian authorities to seize Russian enterprises.

Ben-Ari immigrated in 1989 and settled in Ashdod. He has donated millions to hospitals, schools and immigrant absorption projects.

He was arrested nine months ago on suspicion that he defrauded four Russian banks of close to \$106 million. Court papers said the money was transferred to Ben-Ari's company from the banks. Ben-Ari set up a pyramid scheme, using money from one bank to entice investment by others, and shuffled the funds between various accounts before much of it disappeared.

Sheftel said his client did not receive any money from the banks, noting that he has not been charged by Russian authorities.

The bank, called ITUB, was eventually set up in the Turkish-ruled zone of the Mediterranean island of Cyprus, according to court papers.

Channel 2 reported that had the trial gone ahead as scheduled, Ben-Ari would have faced a minimum sentence of 10 years.

Justice Ministry spokeswoman Ety Eshed refused comment on the reports.

Ben-Ari's wife Lena said that she had been surprised to hear about the plea bargain via the media.

"They said that they want to imprison him for six years. That hurts. Every day that passes is like years. His daughter is going into the army, she is 16, and this is very hard for her. It is also very difficult for his 80-year-old father. He needs him very much. We are worried," she said. "To me, he is innocent of any crime."

Two previous attempts to arrange plea bargains had been rejected by police on the grounds that no one else would be charged in connection with the case. There were also disagreements about which charges should be dropped.

Former police chief Assaf Hefetz said that \$4 billion of organized crime money from the former Soviet Union had been invested in Israeli real estate, businesses and banks over the past seven years. Police have about 30 organized crime suspects under surveillance, he added.

(News agencies)

Annan: Sides seem ready for deal



Kazamel Shaharban (right), from the Druze village of Beit Jann, contemplates a photo of her son, Fady, 19, an Armored Corps soldier killed in the helicopter disaster last year. She is demonstrating for a Lebanon withdrawal with other members of the Four Mothers organization during Friday's cabinet meeting at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem. (Ariel Zerovinski)

UN chief discusses Lebanon pullout in Beirut, Damascus

By DAVID RUDGE, JAY BUSHINSKY, and agencies

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's talks in Damascus today and his preceding meetings in Beirut reflect the prospect of a new diplomatic momentum, which could culminate in an IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon, official sources and regional experts said.

Annan told reporters during a visit to UNIFIL headquarters in Nakoura yesterday that the UN would be examining the initiative.

"To implement it, you need the cooperation of the parties and now there seems to be willingness to implement and we will need to look at that," he said.

"I hope that the day will soon come when it [Resolution 425] will be implemented in full, in recognition of the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and political independence of Lebanon," he told UN troops.

Annan's comments coincided with what appeared to be a softening of Hizbullah's position regarding the 425 initiative, apparently in line with popular sentiment in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, a growing number of cabinet ministers appear to favor the proposal, which was originally put forward by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and later supported by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The security cabinet failed Friday to reach a decision on the 425 issue or on National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's counterproposal for a staged unilateral withdrawal, with the threatened use of massive force in the event of cross-border attacks.

Nevertheless, Mordechai intends to enlist US support for the initiative during an upcoming visit to Washington this month.

The proposal calls for arrangements with the Lebanese — to be reached either directly or through a third party — that would ensure

the security of northern communities and the safety of South Lebanese Army soldiers and their families in the event of an IDF withdrawal.

Syria has been the biggest obstacle to the initiative so far and has forged a united front with Lebanon in rejecting anything short of a unilateral and unconditional IDF pullout. The Syrians have also been trying to link any withdrawal from the security zone with a comprehensive accord that would ensure an Israeli pullout from the Golan Heights.

Channel 2 reported on Friday

that would lead to yielding all the Golan.

Golan Residents Committee leaders also said they would be ready to resume their anti-withdrawal campaign.

Annan arrived in Damascus yesterday after his visit to Nakoura and talks in Beirut on Friday. He told reporters at Beirut Airport that he would bring Lebanon's position to the attention of the Israeli government when he visits here on Tuesday.

Annan has maintained a cautious stand on the issue throughout his Lebanon visit. He has insisted that he needs to listen to the concerns of all parties in the conflict and take into consideration that things have changed on the ground in south Lebanon since the IDF first occupied the area 20 years ago.

"The UN can encourage. The UN can cajole... We can pressure. But without the cooperation of the parties UNIFIL and the UN cannot impose the resolution (425)," Annan stressed.

After being greeted by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa in Damascus last night, Annan said he did not come to the region with a specific plan to achieve a breakthrough.

"I do not have a plan," he said. "I am here to discuss, to listen, and to think together about what should be done."

Yossi Olmert, an expert on Lebanese and Syrian affairs, was optimistic about the status of the government's withdrawal initiative.

"Even in Beirut there is a sense of movement," Olmert said.

He detected a degree of relative moderation in comments made yesterday by Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, regarding his militia's intention to stay out of the security zone in the event of an IDF pullout and a concurrent takeover by the Lebanese Army.

See ANNAN Page 2

Woman dies following ex-husband's hammer attack

Ayala Hoffman, 37, of Holon, died yesterday morning in Tel Hashomer's Sheba Hospital after being beaten on the head Friday with a hammer allegedly wielded by her former husband. She was attacked in front of the couple's three children: two daughters, seven and nine, and a three-month-old boy.

The ex-husband, Hanoach Hoffman, 46, was remanded on Friday for four days and sent for psychiatric observation.

On Friday morning at 7:15, the police emergency line received a call from Hanoach Hoffman announcing he had struck his wife and she was not moving. The couple, although divorced, continued to live in the same apartment. He had allegedly attacked her with a hammer while she slept.

An intensive care unit quickly arrived and took the woman to the hospital in critical condition.

while police arrested the ex-husband.

The Hoffmans — both of whom were previously divorced — married each other 10 years ago. The husband, who has a daughter by his first wife, designed and made ceramics which he sold on the Nahalat Binyamin mall.

Ayala Hoffman was a homemaker who insisted that her husband's daughter leave her boarding school and come to live with them.

According to Ayala's brother, Ofer Damti, she told the girl: "I will be a mother to you." The eldest daughter did not sleep at home the night of the murder.

"She was good to everyone — just not to herself," said Damti. "She was the kind who loved to help."

Relatives gathered at the home of Ayala's parents said this was not the first instance of violence by her ex-husband. They divorced two

years ago, but continued to live in the same home and have relations.

Hanoach Hoffman suffered a stroke while undergoing surgery a year ago and his former wife cared for him during his recovery, while carrying their third child.

Damti said he had asked his sister, "1,000 times" to leave Hoffman because of his violence.

"One day after he beat her she threatened to leave the house. He cried like a baby and asked forgiveness," he said.

Relatives said Hanoach Hoffman tried to kill himself last week by swallowing pills and slashing his wrists. He was treated at Wolfson Hospital and sent home. On Thursday night, his former father-in-law sat with the couple and the three peacefully watched a football match on television before the estranged couple went to bed for the last time in their separate rooms. (Itim)

Clinton team moves to dismiss Jones sex case

WASHINGTON — US President Bill Clinton's lawyers moved on Friday to dismiss the Paula Jones sexual harassment case, arguing that her claim of suffering sexual aversion after an encounter with Clinton was a "big joke."

"That lawsuit is politically motivated... without legal merit and it should be dismissed," attorney Robert Bennett told a news conference. "This is not a sexual harassment case, this is not an employment discrimination case, in the sense that there is no evidence to support it."

Bennett said Clinton's team had filed about 200 pages of legal papers in Little Rock, Arkansas, where the Jones lawsuit is set for trial on May 27.

He referred to a 700-page filing by Jones' attorneys on March 13 as "little more than a web of deceit and distortions... [including] every

piece of garbage they could get before the court," but said Clinton's lawyers would not respond in kind.

"Our filing focuses on the weakness of the plaintiff's case and her witnesses," Bennett said, rather than her sexual past.

Clinton invokes executive privilege, Page 6

He scoffed at Jones' claims that she suffered an aversion to sex following an alleged 1991 meeting with Clinton at a Little Rock hotel room. Clinton denied the allegation. Bennett said that until now she had raised "no medical bills, not even an aspirin... I would say it was a big joke."

Jones alleges that Clinton exposed himself and asked her for oral sex at a Little Rock hotel room in 1991. Clinton denies the allegations.

The Jones filing last week included sworn statements from Clinton, Jones, former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and former White House volunteer Kathleen Willey.

Bennett also concluded that allegations by Willey that the president groped her in his White House office are "not particularly relevant to the Paula Jones case."

Bennett's filing included a previously undisclosed excerpt from Willey's deposition in which she acknowledged that her job opportunities did not suffer as a result of an alleged 1993 episode with Clinton.

See CLINTON, Page 2

Weizman, officials to discuss pardons

By BAT-SHEVA Tsur

President Ezer Weizman has called a top-level meeting for today to discuss the issue of pardons during the jubilee year.

Justice Minister Tzachi Hanegbi, Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, State Attorney Edna Arbel and Police Inspector-General Yehuda Wilk, as well as other top police brass, will sit

down with Weizman and his legal advisers to discuss the criteria for granting pardons.

Weizman has repeatedly ruled out the possibility of a general amnesty. Hanegbi and his senior staff have formally come out against it as well.

However, top officials are considering a review of the files of all 6,300 prisoners to determine who may be eligible for a pardon.

Morocco bars Israeli cross-country athletes

By JAY BUSHINSKY and news agencies

The national athletic team returns home today after Morocco barred it from competing in the World Cross Country Championship by refusing to grant team members visas.

Israeli officials bitterly denounced Morocco's refusal to grant the visas.

"International ties by means of sports are a basic element in the understanding that exists between nations," officials said.

"Their conversion into a political issue certainly does not advance them. This is especially true when it comes to official sports events and world championships, which are predicated on the principle that every state has the right to participate if they so desire."

For most of the past week, the sportsmen and women waited in vain in Paris for the visas to be granted and finally were instructed to fly back to Israel after the Moroccan authorities confirmed that they would not be

issued. The athletes were notified on Friday that Morocco's decision to bar them was final, the officials said.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation called the Moroccan decision "very disappointing. When we accepted Morocco's candidacy to stage the games we received documents, one signed by the Moroccan Sports Ministry, saying the government would act with no restrictions [regarding visas]." IAAF head Primo

Nebiolo told a news conference in Marrakech. "The Israeli athletes have had many difficulties getting visas and we are extremely disappointed."

Nebiolo said the IAAF had contacted the Federation of Moroccan Athletics to protest and called for visas to be issued to the Israelis immediately.

Most athletes arrived Thursday to prepare for the event, which began yesterday and ends today, in Bab Jdid on the outskirts of Marrakech at the foot of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains.



NEWS

in brief

Israeli Arabs call strike for Land Day

Israeli Arabs will hold a general strike on Land Day, which is next Monday, the Israeli-Arab leadership's steering committee decided yesterday. There will be demonstrations in Saknin, Kafr Kana and the Negev on March 30 to protest the confiscation by the government of Arab land. On Friday, there will be a procession in the Galilee from Kafr Sheikh Dannun to Rabasiya, an abandoned village nearby, to highlight a campaign for the return of former residents to their home villages. *Itim*

Palestinian infiltrators captured

IDF troops apprehended two armed Palestinians from Khan Yunis as they attempted to enter the Pa'at Sadeh settlement in Gush Katif late Friday night. The IDF spokesman said the soldiers were alerted by the settlement's head of security and immediately caught one of the Palestinians. The second infiltrator was caught after a short chase. *Margot Dudkevitch*

Body found in field near Ariel

Police are investigating the death of a man in his early twenties whose body was found yesterday in a field near his home in Ariel. Police said the man, formerly of the USSR, had rented a room in an apartment belonging to a couple of fellow new immigrants several days ago. Sivan said the couple notified police yesterday afternoon they had found his body in a field near their home and had carried it to their apartment. There were no signs of violence on the body and police sent it to the Abu Kabir Forensic Institute to determine the cause of death. The couple was detained for questioning. *Margot Dudkevitch*

Stranded Canadian scuba divers rescued

Two sport divers were plucked to safety yesterday in a combined operation by the Israeli Navy and the Western Galilee Mountain Rescue Team after they became stranded on rocks near the Rosh Hanikra grottoes. The two men, Canadians serving with the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, apparently ran into difficulty because of the stormy conditions and one of them was lightly hurt. The alarm was raised by an IDF sentry at Rosh Hanikra who spotted the scuba divers in distress. One was rescued by a navy patrol boat and the other, suffering from exhaustion, by the Civil Guard volunteers of the mountain rescue team. *David Rudge*

Forgery suspect arrested

A 40-year-old Kiryat Motzkin man was arrested on Friday as the suspected mastermind of a money counterfeiting ring. The suspect, Benny Babyloni, was found in a hideout in Kiryat Bialik. He denied police claims that the ring had forged thousands of dollars and shekels in the apartment. Also discovered at the site were forged 50- and 100-dollar bills and 50- and 100 shekel notes. A couple, Alexander and Nina Kundrik, aged 28 and 23, who were in the apartment, were also taken into custody. *Itim*

Man confesses to murdering girlfriend

Leonid Kolodner, 43, confessed last night to murdering his girlfriend, Marina Buchman, in Kiev two years ago. Petah Tikva Magistrate's Court remanded him for 10 days last week. While on a trip to Kiev, Kolodner murdered Buchman. He returned here before police there caught up with him. Israeli police arrested him last week, after Ukrainian police asked for assistance. *Itim*

Two dead, 11 injured in traffic accidents

Two people were killed and 11 were injured in weekend traffic accidents. Osnat Moshe, 26, of Upper Nazareth, and Danny Markowitz, 26, of Nesher, were killed after their car fell into the Hadera River early Friday morning. In Lod, a two-year-old girl suffered serious head injuries last night after her father accidentally ran her over as she played near the car in their building's parking lot. She was taken by a Magen David Adom ambulance to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer. *Itim*

We mourn the loss of our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

EVA BRENNER MARGOLIN

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, at 1 p.m. at Vatikim, Netanya. Shiva at Hotel Galey Zahav, Sderot Nitzit 20, Netanya.
Wife of: Abraham Brenner 71 and Elkin Margolin
Children: Helyn 71 and Seymour Reich
Rabbi Reeva Robert Brenner
Joyce Rosman Brenner
Roberta and Alan Zuckerman
Grandchildren: Keith and Audrey Reich
Leslie and Dana Goldfarb
Jalme and Avi Amiram
Neva and Gabriel Kleiman
Nurette Brenner
Noga and Alon Brenner Samla
Gregory and Michelle Zuckerman
Esra and Lisa Shvan (Zuckerman)
Shara Zuckerman
and great-grandchildren.



Emunah Jerusalem

extends heartfelt condolences to the family of

RUTH CHERNOFSKY

a true Eshet Chayil

המקום יום אתכם בתוך ימי אבל ציון וירושלים ולא תיפסקו לדאגה קוד

A Memorial Service for our beloved ones

LOLA BEER EBNER

who passed away a year ago

and

ADOLF (Dolfi) EBNER

who passed away five years ago

will be held at the graves

at the Nachlat Yitzhak cemetery

tomorrow, Monday March 23 1998 at 3 p.m.

We shall meet at the entrance

The Family

NEWS

Sunday, March 22, 1998 The Jerusalem Post

6 soldiers wounded in security zone

By DAVID RUDGE

A senior IDF officer and five other soldiers were wounded - most of them lightly - from a Hizbullah mortar bombardment on an army outpost in the western sector of the security zone on Friday.

The officer, a lieutenant-colonel and deputy brigade commander, was hit by shrapnel near his eye but not badly injured.

He was the last to be taken to hospital and was released after treatment.

One of the wounded soldiers was reported to be suffering light-to-moderate injuries and was evacuated to Haifa's Rambam Hospital, where he was said to be in satisfactory condition.

The other five, including the senior officer, were all taken to the Nahariya government hospital after receiving initial treatment at the outpost itself.

The officer and another of the soldiers, who was also very lightly hurt, were released after examination and treatment.

The three others were hospitalized but were expected to be released in the coming days.

The incident happened on Friday evening when Hizbullah mortar crews opened fire at the IDF's Ruten position in the western sector of the zone.

A number of the rounds apparently scored direct hits on the reinforced outpost causing slight damage, as well as the injuries to the soldiers.

Gunmen also fired at the IDF's



UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan talks yesterday to the mothers of Lebanese detainees who are held in Israeli prisons. Annan, on a visit to Beirut, promised to do his best to help secure their freedom. (Reuters)

Karkum position, also in the western sector of the zone, without causing any injuries or damage.

Security sources said the mortar fire originated in two villages, Majdal Zoom and Mansuri, north of the security zone. The sources noted that this was another breach

of the Grapes of Wrath understandings by Hizbullah.

A clause in the understandings that ended Operation Grapes of Wrath in April 1996 bans the launching of attacks or shooting from residential areas or public facilities.

IDF gunners blasted suspected Hizbullah targets north of the zone in response to the mortar attacks, although there were no reports of any shells hitting the villages where the firing originated. There were also reports of long-range attacks on South Lebanese

Army positions over the weekend which caused no injuries or damage.

The firing over the weekend broke a recent lull in the fighting, which security sources said was probably due to the stormy weather in the region last week.

Palestinians mark 30th anniversary of battle of Karameh

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinians attended rallies held in Ramallah and Hebron yesterday to mark the 30th anniversary of the battle of Karameh.

Although the IDF destroyed the PLO base in Jordan and killed 128 in response to across-border raids, the Palestinians view it as a political victory because 30 IDF soldiers were killed and 10 tanks destroyed during the operation against Palestinians backed by the

Jordanian Army. Ramallah and El Birch Governor Mustafa Issa Abu Pherras sponsored the city's rally, where a photo exhibition was also held in a municipality hall.

Some Palestinian officials said Israel preferred the Palestinians to remain weak and not celebrate the "martyrs" who lost their lives in the battle.

Meanwhile, in the Shuafat refugee camp, scores of Palestinians stoned border policemen, who dispersed the rioters

with tear gas and fired rubber bullets. Five Palestinians were detained and no injuries were reported.

On Friday afternoon, Palestinians clashed with IDF troops on the outskirts of Dura, the hometown of the three Palestinian workers killed by IDF troops at the Tarkumiya checkpoint.

Palestinian sources said one rioter was injured during the clashes as IDF forces fired rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse the crowd.

Arafat more concerned with peace process's 'health' than his own

DUBAI (Reuters) - Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted yesterday as saying he was exhausted but feels concerned about the health of the peace process.

Arafat also told the UAE newspaper *Al-Bayan*, in an interview on the sidelines of last week's meeting of the foreign minister Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in Qatar, that he did not believe that Israel's offer to withdraw from south Lebanon was serious.

Asked about his health, Arafat said: "The health is fine, thank God. Apart from fatigue resulting from the repeated frustrations, I am well. But it is the state of

peace which does not please anybody except [Prime Minister] Benjamin Netanyahu, who is actively seeking to obstruct the process," Arafat said.

Rumors circulated last year that the 69-year-old Arafat may be suffering from Parkinson's disease. But the newspaper said that apart from the slight tremble in his lower lip, Arafat appeared in good health.

Arafat said of Israel's offer to pull troops out of Lebanon: "This is no more than an Israeli attempt to appear as if it was concerned over the peace process. But this is no more than a new bubble... and this talk will fizzle out as it did in the past."

ANNAN

Continued from Page 1

Nasrallah was quoted on the Voice of Lebanon radio station as saying that Hizbullah would welcome Lebanese Army troops in the south.

He reiterated his pledge to pardon any SLA soldiers who "repented" and laid down their weapons before an IDF withdrawal.

In a separate interview with the London-based *Al-Moharrar* Arabic-language weekly, Nasrallah was quoted as saying that "there appears to be some misunderstanding on the issue of linking the liberation of south Lebanon with the issue of the Golan Heights."

"Some actually think that the Lebanese Islamic Resistance is opposed to an Israeli withdrawal if it is not simultaneous with a withdrawal from occupied Syria. This is simply not true."

"If Israel were to decide to pull out of south Lebanon tomorrow, do you think we would tell it not to leave before it withdraws from the Golan?"

Olmert explained that "Hizbullah cannot appear as if its personnel are to become the defenders of Israel's northern frontier."

Olmert, speaking after Friday's special security cabinet session, stressed the centrality of Syria's strategic position as the ultimate factor in determining whether a normalization of conditions in southern Lebanon

is feasible. Although Mordechai's proposal appeared to have strong support within the cabinet, including Netanyahu's personal backing, Deputy Prime Minister Moshe Katsav, who also holds the tourism portfolio, suggested that it may be preferable to seek a synthesis between Mordechai's concepts and those of Sharon.

Advocating a piecemeal withdrawal without waiting for Lebanon's formal consent and contending that Syria should be kept out of the tactical equation, Sharon told his colleagues that "it is impossible that life in Lebanon should be proceeding normally while we shed our blood on its territory."

The former defense minister and architect of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, which was officially known as "Operation Peace for Galilee," said the IDF pullout not only should be based on Resolution 425, but also on Resolution 426, which spells out the measures Lebanon is required to take in the aftermath of the IDF's pullout.

"We must emphasize that all this is unconnected with whatever agreement may be made with the Syrians or with the status of the Golan Heights."

Sharon opposed the entry of additional foreign troops as peacekeepers or to reinforce the Lebanese Army on the grounds that they would pose an obstacle to the IDF in the event it became necessary to reenter evacuated areas.

Sharon also contended that if the Lebanese violated the implicit terms of the piecemeal or staged pullback, Israel should react by striking Lebanon's vital infrastructure: electrical generating plants, oil refineries, highways, and other facilities.

The cabinet is to resume discussion of the two proposals next week. By then, it will be able to gauge the extent to which Annan may be willing to serve as a mediator or expand the UN's peacekeeping effort, which now is based on UNIFIL (the 20-year old UN Interim Force in Lebanon) and the pro forma deployment of UNTSO (UN Truce Supervisory Organization) personnel along the border.

Neither Israel nor the US regards Annan as a likely go-between in the Lebanon withdrawal process, Olmert said.

Annan was briefed yesterday by senior UNIFIL officers and also laid a wreath at the memorial in Nakoura for those who have died since the establishment of the peacekeeping force in 1978. Afterwards, he flew back to Beirut for another meeting with Lebanese President Elias Hrawi, before going on to Damascus.

Annan said he hopes for a comprehensive Middle East peace deal.

"We will be very happy to have a comprehensive peace settlement in the region; for [the] UN one day to be able to withdraw all the peacekeepers. That is my dream," he said.

Attorneys at Kirkland & Ellis have moved to quash the subpoena, arguing that the Jones-related documents they possess are related to a client and are therefore protected by attorney-client privilege. (News agencies)

Albright, Arafat discuss US peace proposal

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NAJIB

The United States will present a new proposal in the near future to revive stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, a senior Palestinian official said yesterday.

"Officially we have not yet been informed of the American initiative in detail but the US administration intends to lay out its initiative in the very near future," Nabil Abu Rdainah, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser, told Reuters.

He said US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright telephoned Arafat yesterday and briefed him on US efforts to "speed up submitting its proposal officially."

Other Palestinian officials, who asked not to be identified, said US envoy Dennis Ross would travel to the region soon to "unofficially" present the plan.

Israeli officials were unavailable for comment.

Arafat met with Austrian Chancellor Viktor Klima in Gaza on Friday. At their joint press conference after the meeting, Arafat told reporters that they were waiting for the US proposals.

"Actually, nothing official had been offered to us until now. We are waiting for something official [to be proposed] very soon," he said.

Klima expressed his dismay over the current deadlock in peace

negotiations.

"We [are greatly concerned] that the peace process has lost its momentum, and that confidence has been replaced by... pessimism, lack of progress in the negotiations, and new violence," he said.

"The European Union is not competing, but complementing and coordinating with the United States [and that] could offer a lot to encourage the peace process in the region," he added.

PA negotiator Saeb Erekat said he was pessimistic about the outcome of the peace process. Accusing Israel of failing to implement the already-signed accords, Erekat called on the international community - and the US especially - to find ways to force Israel to implement the signed accords.

If the US fails to present a proposal, then the Palestinians will consider EU or Russian initiatives instead, he said.

Erekat said he welcomed the visit of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, adding that his visit to PA-controlled areas is not only important but historical.

Erekat said the Palestinians planned to discuss with Annan Israel's failure to implement the signed accords.

A PA cabinet statement issued on Friday said such efforts by Israel were "a great and a serious danger which threatens not only the entire peace process but also American credibility."

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US sanctions on Swiss banks 'inevitable'

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

NEW YORK — Barring last-minute developments, sanctions against Swiss banks by US public finance authorities appear almost inevitable, senior Jewish officials said over the weekend.

Any sanctions by US city and state governments over Holocaust claims, however, could prompt Switzerland to retaliate with sanctions of its own, which could also ripple throughout European industries.

Much appears to be at stake. American companies could be barred from Swiss government contracts. Several states, meanwhile, could be especially vulnerable to any irritation on the part of Swiss industry, which has created more

than 200,000 direct jobs in the US.

For example, in New Jersey — where Swiss pharmaceutical companies are dominant employers — the state legislature is considering sanctions against the Swiss banks.

Already, some southern states are trying to woo Swiss industry, offering what they call a "more hospitable" environment.

The US State Department has consistently opposed sanctions, arguing that they are unwarranted and would be counterproductive.

The prospects of sanctions were raised last December when state and local finance officials said they were frustrated with what they called a lack of progress in a global settlement over Holocaust-era assets.

But they agreed to a 90-day moratorium,

with no action before March 31.

However, 10 days ago, California Treasurer Matt Fong — who is said to aspire to the US Senate seat now held by a Jewish senator, Barbara Boxer — broke through the "hold-off" plans of a committee of finance officials headed by New York City Controller Alan Hevesi.

Fong asked the Swiss to agree to a settlement by the end of the month.

The Swiss banks face three class-action lawsuits in the US seeking some \$20 billion and parallel demands from the World Jewish Congress for a settlement in the billions. Some of the lawyers suing the banks have insisted that the World Jewish Congress is not authorized to settle claims.



Austrian chancellor pledges memorial forest

Austrian Chancellor Viktor Klima plants an olive sapling at the JNF's Hadassah Tree Planting Center in Jerusalem on Friday. He pledged on behalf of his government to donate a forest in the Negev in the memory of the 65,000 Austrian Jews who perished in the Holocaust. He also said that Austria had erred in not helping Jews to return there after the Holocaust and that the Nazi era was one of the most painful and tragic periods in Austrian history. (Joe Malcolm)

Libya wins support for its Lockerbie stance

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

NEW YORK — Libya has received widespread support, mainly from developing countries, in its quest to have the Lockerbie bombing trial held in any country other than the United States or Britain.

But sanctions imposed on Tripoli for its refusal to surrender two suspects in the 1988 mid-air bombing are expected to remain for the foreseeable future.

Among the 15 UN Security Council members, only Bahrain advocated their immediate suspension during a marathon debate on Friday.

The council has demanded Libya extradite for trial in Scotland or the US two alleged intelligence agents charged with placing a bomb that killed all 259 passengers and crew aboard a Pan Am airliner, as well as 11 inhabitants of the Scottish village of Lockerbie.

To US Ambassador Bill Richardson, the UN debate was about jurisdiction. To Dan Cohen, it was about Theo. Cohen, whose only daughter, Theodora, was among the victims, was at the UN Friday.

"The Libyans have got a long rap sheet," Cohen, the author of 160 children's books, told a news conference before the debate started. "Blowing up innocent people is one of the things they do."

Those killed in the December 21, 1988 bombing numbered people from 21 countries, including Israel. Theo Cohen, 20, was returning from a semester in London. Her body landed in a sheep meadow.

In the council, Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Mustafa Muntasser said the sanctions were moot in light of last month's decision by the International Court of Justice on the Pan Am bombing, which triggered the sanctions in 1992.

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ENTERTAINMENT BOOK</

Korean talks end in disarray

By ELIF KARAN

GENEVA (Reuters) - Four-nation talks in Geneva to end half a century of high tension on the Korean peninsula broke up in disarray yesterday with no new round set and North Korea threatening to pull out of the process.

Despite a farewell handshake for cameras by delegation heads from Seoul and Pyongyang, the future of the peace effort looked bleak as the United States and the North traded charges of intransigence and China blamed both for the impasse.

Chinese assistant foreign minister and talks chairman Chen Jian, looking grim after six days of fruitless parlaying, announced the stalemate in a closing statement.

But despite a hint from North Korea that it might refuse future meetings unless there was movement on its major demand for a US troop withdrawal from the South, Chen clearly rejected suggestions

the talks had broken down.

"There are channels of communication. Sooner or later, we will agree on the time of the next session," he told reporters.

However, the chief negotiator for hardline communist North Korea, fiercely defiant despite growing reliance on foreign help in its three-year food crisis, said his country saw little point in continuing the negotiations.

This was because the United States refused to talk about ending the presence of its 37,000 troops in South Korea or concluding a bilateral peace pact with Pyongyang, he said.

The current situation on the Korean peninsula, which is more or less a state of war, results from the stationing of US troops on the peninsula, and foreign intervention," Pyongyang's Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Gye Gwan told a news conference.

"Therefore the withdrawal of US troops and the conclusion of a

peace treaty are essential issues.

"If we are not in a position to discuss these fundamental issues, I do not think we have any point in coming to this forum and wasting our time," Kim declared.

In Pyongyang, the official news agency KCNA accused the United States of using the talks as a smokescreen for military maneuvers and plans to "stifle" North Korea by force. "We are ready for both dialogue and war," it declared.

The talks are only the second round of formal negotiations between the North and the South and their backers in the 1950-53 Korean War, China and the United States. Korea-watchers predict it will take years to get a substantial accord.

US delegation chief Stanley Roth, an assistant secretary of state, blamed North Korea for the blockade but said Washington was still committed to the process.

"We came here prepared to make

progress towards peace. We proposed to negotiate steps to reduce tensions and build confidence on the Korean peninsula," he said in a statement.

"Unfortunately, the North Korean delegation was not prepared to do so," he added. But the US side remained committed to the search for real peace and looked forward to the next round.

A senior US official ruled out flexibility on the two issues pushed by Pyongyang.

"The position of the US remains unchanged - the withdrawal of US forces from Korea is not an issue for negotiation for these talks," the official said.

"Unfortunately we were unable to make progress because the North Koreans were unwilling to focus on pragmatic steps," China's Chen blamed the United States and its ally South Korea as well as the North for the outcome. "There were problems with all delegations," he told reporters.

Sinn Fein to return to N. Ireland talks

By MARTIN CROWLEY

BELFAST (Reuters) - The IRA's Sinn Fein political wing ended weeks of uncertainty for the Northern Irish peace process by saying it would resume its place at multi-party talks tomorrow.

Yesterday's announcement came as politicians involved in the negotiations prepared for a final push for an agreement to end decades of strife that has cost more than 3,200 lives.

Britain, buoyed by firm support from US President Bill Clinton this week, said feuding parties in the volatile province know they must soon cut a deal.

"In any process of negotiations there comes a point to move from talking to deciding. That moment is now," said Northern Ireland Secretary Mo Mowlam in

Warrington, north-west England.

Teams of delegates from eight Protestant and Catholic parties and British and Irish ministers begin the final phase of talks tomorrow in a bid to meet an April 9 deadline, to be followed by referendums on both sides of the border, probably in June.

Sinn Fein was expelled from the talks at Castle Buildings, Belfast on February 20 after the British and Irish governments blamed the Irish Republican Army for two murders.

In protest it refused to take its seats alongside the other pro-British Protestant and pro-Irish Roman Catholic groups when the expulsion lapsed on March 9.

"Sinn Fein will return to Castle Buildings on Monday in a positive and constructive frame of mind," Sinn Fein chairman Mitchel McLaughlin said after a meeting of

the party executive in Dublin.

Mowlam spoke at a commemoration for two youngsters killed by an IRA explosion on the British mainland five years ago. She was upbeat about talks that have been blighted by guerrilla violence and political mistrust.

The parties now recognized that "the moment has come to go for it," said Mowlam.

"For the first time in a generation there is a real chance to end the violence for good. As President Clinton said when I was in Washington earlier this week, this is the time to seize the historic moment." But in a stark reminder of difficulties, the province's most powerful pro-British Protestant leader, David Trimble, made it clear he will not change a tactic of cold-shouldering Sinn Fein at the talks table.

US may lift some China sanctions

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States is willing to consider gradually removing human rights sanctions imposed on China in 1989 as bilateral relations improve, a senior administration official said Friday.

"We would be in a position to look at peeling away these sanctions one by one as there is progress in the US-China relationship," said Sandra Kristoff, special assistant to the president and senior director for Asian affairs at the National Security Council.

But Kristoff said any change in the US stance had to occur "in the context of an improving US-China relationship and in response to China's action on particular issues of (US) concern."

Kristoff, during an appearance at the Foreign Press Center, said she hoped China would be granted Most Favored Nation (MFN) status again this year. "There's a sense we will prevail again this year on MFN," she said. "We've seen a lot of progress this year on human rights," Kristoff was

responding to news reports that the United States is considering allowing its satellite manufacturers to buy launching services from China as an incentive for Beijing to tighten controls on missile-related exports.

A ban on US use of such services was among the sanctions imposed on China in 1989 after Beijing's bloody crackdown in Tiananmen Square against pro-democracy activists.

The sanctions include a ban on weapons transfers under both government and commercial programs and a denial of licenses for dual use technology items for the Chinese military or police.

In addition, the United States has refused to back multinational lending to China except for humanitarian needs and Beijing is barred from participating in several programs, such as the Overseas Private Investment Council and the Trade and Development Agency.

Administration officials have said they would discuss the satel-

lite launching proposal when they visit China next week for talks on non-proliferation.

The administration was considering other unspecified "incentives" that might encourage China to limit missile technology exports, officials said.

If China "can be a member in good standing of the MTCR, then we would be in a position to possibly allow them the ability to launch American satellites," a senior official said.

He was referring to the Missile Technology Control Regime, established in 1987, under which 29 countries agreed to curb sales of nuclear-capable missiles and related technology.

Although the Tiananmen Square sanctions remain in force, in recent years there have been frequent waivers so US firms could launch satellites by means of Chinese booster rockets, one US official said.

What is now being considered is a formal lifting of the sanction that would make waivers unnecessary.



Storm damage

Ginny Cast (left) is consoled by her mother Linda Taylor after her trailer home outside of Gainesville, Georgia, was destroyed by a tornado on Friday. Six people were killed and 80 injured in the storm.

(AP)

Cuba not impressed by US easing of travel, cash sanctions

By PASCAL FLETCHER

HAVANA (Reuters) - Cuba's state media greeted US moves to relax some sanctions against the island as "a drop of water in the desert" and urged Washington to completely lift its economic embargo against Cuba.

An analysis carried by the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina and state-run Radio Rebelde commented on a decision by the US government on Friday to permit renewed direct charter flights from the US to Havana and the sending of cash remittances from Cuban exiles to family members on the communist-ruled island.

The commentary said the two measures did not constitute an easing of the US blockade against Cuba.

"It is clear that the two measures mentioned leave unchanged the blockade imposed on Cuba nearly 40 years ago," it added and went on to urge the US leadership to eliminate what it called "this archaic policy."

In an initial reaction before details of the US announcement were published, Cuban President Fidel Castro told CNN that the measures involved had "seemed positive." But he stressed he would need to know the full details before making a fuller comment.

The Cuban media commentary said the two US measures merely represented a return to the situation which existed before February 24, 1996, when Cuban MiG fighters shot down two small US planes piloted by Cuban-Americans, killing all four crew members aboard. The incident

damaged already tense relations.

But the commentary described as "something more novel" a third measure announced by Washington to streamline and speed up the granting of US government licenses for the sale of US medicines to Cuba.

It said any move to ease the US economic embargo would be welcome but said the US government

had in the past placed considerable obstacles in the way of humanitarian aid to Cuba.

On an even more pessimistic note, it went on to say that a short but tough speech by US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright outlining Friday's measures signified "no change in the traditional anti-Cuban diatribe of US administrations."

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Sources: Clinton trying to stop two aides testifying

By SUSAN SCHMIDT

WASHINGTON — US President Bill Clinton has invoked executive privilege in an effort to keep two of his top aides from having to testify fully in independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr's investigation of the Monica Lewinsky matter, sources said Friday.

A team of lawyers for the president, along with Starr and seven prosecutors, presented oral arguments during a closed hearing before US Chief Judge Norma Holloway Johnson Friday afternoon. Attorneys for Clinton also asserted the attorney-client privilege in its effort to prevent Starr from questioning White House

aides, according to sources knowledgeable about the proceedings. By claiming executive privilege, Clinton is setting the stage for a constitutional battle over the president's ability to protect the secrecy of his discussions with close advisers. The privilege was established on the theory that certain conversations should remain private to ensure the president receives candid and uncensored advice.

But it is rarely invoked, and ultimately, if no compromise is reached, the disagreement could reach the Supreme Court and clarify what have long been imprecise rules governing presidential confidentiality.

Friday night, the White House

refused any public comment on the president's decision to take such a dramatic step — one that harkens back to Watergate, when President Nixon sought to shield his secret Oval Office tape recordings.

White House counsel Charles F. Ruff, quizzed when he emerged from Johnson's courtroom, said, "I'm not going to have anything to say — zero."

Clinton's private lawyer David E. Kendall swept past reporters at the courthouse without saying a word.

Johnson has insisted on strict secrecy in mediating several legal battles involving evidence and other matters that have arisen during the grand jury proceedings.

The two sides must now await a ruling from Johnson.

White House press secretary Michael McCurry declined to comment on the question of whether the White House had invoked executive privilege, citing the judge's orders to maintain the secrecy of the grand jury proceedings.

Clinton directed his aides Bruce Lindsey and Sidney Blumenthal not to answer some questions and cite executive privilege when they were brought before the grand jury last month, Lindsey, a deputy White House counsel and close Clinton adviser, is perhaps the most visible Clinton aide involved in the dispute. But the White

House is also seeking to block Starr from questioning certain communications among aides regarding their strategic deliberations and what advice to give the president, according to a source familiar with the issue.

Lindsey and Blumenthal cited an executive privilege claim in refusing to answer certain questions during their grand jury appearances last month. Starr challenged the assertion of the privilege, and the two sides formalized their positions in court filings Friday. The judge oral arguments over the dispute.

The claim of executive privilege in this case raises constitutional questions of whether the use of

such a privilege should be limited to cases involving the national interest, not the president's personal interest.

Lindsey has long been involved in rebutting allegations of womanizing by Clinton, and he figures in the current investigation in several ways. For example, Clinton told lawyers for Paula Jones in a sworn deposition taken in January that it was Lindsey who informed him in December that the Jones lawyers were planning to question Lewinsky as a possible witness in their sexual harassment case against the president.

Lindsey also talked with Linda R. Tripp, whose secret tape recordings of Lewinsky set off Starr's

investigation. Lindsey questioned Tripp about allegations that another former White House aide — Kathleen Willey — had a sexual encounter with the president, according to sources close to Tripp. Tripp, who ran into Willey immediately after the alleged 1993 incident, has said she was pressured by Lewinsky to lie to the Jones lawyers about the Willey matter.

Starr has sought to question Blumenthal about efforts within the White House to spread false information about prosecutors on Starr's staff, including whether private investigators were employed to seek out damaging personal information. (The Washington Post)

Teen said killed over Internet deal gone sour

By ROSS SNEYD

FAIR HAVEN, Vermont (AP) — An Indiana man sent a pipe bomb that killed a 17-year-old Vermont boy after an Internet deal went sour, authorities said.

Chris Dean, 35, of Pierceton, Indiana, was arrested Friday afternoon, one day after a bomb killed Chris Marquis, 17, of Fair Haven, and seriously injured his mother.

A sworn statement released Friday night alleged that Dean felt Marquis defrauded him in a \$400 Internet-arranged trade of CB radio equipment.

The affidavit said Dean had been threatening Marquis over the telephone and had said he would come to Vermont yesterday to get the money he was owed.

Dean, jailed in Fort Wayne, Indiana, faces federal charges of interstate transportation of explosives with the intent to kill or injure and causing to place an explosive device on an airplane, the FBI said.

The bomb was shipped Wednesday from Mansfield, Ohio, via United Parcel Service, authorities said. They said Dean, a truck driver, had been in Mansfield that day.

UPS had begun investigating Marquis several weeks ago after receiving complaints from people who said he had cheated them in deals for CB radio parts and other items, authorities said.

Authorities investigating the blast quickly turned their focus to the Internet, as they learned that Marquis had angered many people in a CB radio chat group.

There are several ominous-sounding messages about Marquis, a high school dropout, posted on a computer bulletin board. One of them even listed his home address in Fair Haven.

Authorities said their investigation was helped by a friend of Dean's who cooperated with them.



Protester dragged away

German riot police arrest an anti-nuclear demonstrator Friday among the thousands of activists who tried to block a rail shipment of nuclear waste from southern power plants to the northwestern town of Ahaus. Some 30,000 police officers were deployed to guard the shipment along its 800 kilometer route. Eight people were reported arrested. (Reuters)

Cambodia mulls pardon for Khmer Rouge conspirator

By ROBIN McDOWELL

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Hopes for the success of a Japanese-brokered peace plan for Cambodia rose late yesterday when coup leader Hun Sen came out in support of a royal pardon for deposed co-premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

Hun Sen wrote to King Sihanouk asking for a pardon for Ranariddh, who was convicted in absentia Wednesday of plotting with Khmer Rouge guerrillas and sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Earlier yesterday, a distraught Sihanouk had written to his son Ranariddh denying him amnesty because Hun Sen had not given him the green light to issue it.

Hun Sen's reversal left Sihanouk so stunned and confounded that he has delayed giving the pardon until he can confirm Hun Sen's letter.

"The terms of this letter are so unbelievable and incredible, that I cannot certify its authenticity," Sihanouk wrote by hand over Hun Sen's letter.

Sihanouk's earlier denial dashed hopes for the complex Japanese plan that seeks to end the political deadlock in Cambodia that emerged after Hun Sen deposed Ranariddh in a coup d'etat last July.

Under its terms, Ranariddh's trials in the Hun Sen-controlled courts, where his conviction was assured, would go forward. He would then be pardoned by the king and return to compete in elections scheduled for July 26.

In a letter to the king, Hun Sen said that \$54 million in compensation sought by a military court for damages caused during two days of fierce fighting in a July coup, would be dropped under the royal amnesty.

Ranariddh, calling the trials a sham, has said he wouldn't pay. It wasn't likely he had the means to pay the fine.



Dr. Spock's funeral

Dr. Benjamin Spock's widow, Mary Morgan, dances a jig on the hearse during his funeral procession on Friday in La Jolla, California, saying: "Ben knew how to live. Why should he die any differently?" Spock, the child-rearing authority and author of *Baby and Child Care* died last Sunday at 94. He once said he wanted a funeral "in which friends snake-dance through the streets to the music of a jazz band." (AP)

US woman cuts baby from womb in triple murder

By MARTHA IRVINE

WHEATON, Illinois (AP) — A woman was convicted of killing two children and their pregnant mother, and cutting the woman's full-term baby from her womb.

The jury deliberated for about two hours before finding Jacqueline Annette Williams, 31, guilty on all counts. She could get the death penalty.

Members of the victims' family

cried as the verdict was announced on Friday.

Williams looked away from jurors, and was the only person in the courtroom to remain seated as they walked out.

Williams was convicted in the November 1995 deaths of 28-year-old Debra Evans, her 10-year-old daughter Samantha, and her 7-year-old son Joshua.

Evans was shot in the head in her apartment and her full-term fetus

was ripped from her womb. Samantha was stabbed to death.

Joshua was abducted, and his body was found in an alley 16 kms. away. Evans' son, Jordan, then 1 1/2-years-old, was left unharmed.

The boy ripped from the womb survived and is now 2.

Two men are charged as accomplices, but prosecutors described Williams as the mastermind, calling her "the enormous evil" behind the killings. They said she held a baby

shower for herself in August 1995 and even had a fake birth certificate made for Evans' baby.

Williams' motive was "her desire to take from the womb what she couldn't have," prosecutor Jeff Kendall said in closing arguments.

"She put her hands up inside that woman's body and pulled that baby out," said another prosecutor, John Kinsella.

"You want to know what a crazy killer looks like? Just look over there," Kinsella told jurors, pointing at Williams.

The defense, which took just one

hour to present its case Thursday, portrayed Williams as an abused and frightened woman who would do anything to please her boyfriend, Fredell Caffey, 25.

"Annette Williams may have a lot of defects, but she is not an evil person," attorney Jeanine Tobin told the jury. "She's caught up in a relationship of dependency and fear. She was an unwilling participant." Separate trials are pending for Caffey and Laverne Ward, 26, Williams' cousin and Evans' former boyfriend, who fathered the baby cut from her womb and Jordan.

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Oscar nominees Helen Hunt, Jack Nicholson (center) and Greg Kinnear embark on a fateful trip in 'As Good As It Gets' — one of the favorites to win Best Movie.

Countdown to the Academy Awards

LA confidential: The secret ballots

By BOB THOMAS

Last year's Academy Awards honored the independents. Tomorrow night, the 70th Academy Awards will likely mark a return of the major studios to Hollywood's rise of spring, with the shipwreck saga *Titanic* favored to win big.

The English, *Parade*, *Shine*, *Sling Blade* and other independent films produced outside the Hollywood system dominated the awards last March. This year's nominees are headed by three big-budget, establishment movies: *Titanic*, *As Good As It Gets*, and *LA Confidential*, the film noir tale of police corruption in 1950s Los Angeles.

Another favorite, *Good Will Hunting*, about a blue-collar genius trying to confront personal demons, was released by Miramax Films, now a subsidiary of the Walt Disney Co. Only the British male-stripper comedy *The Full Monty* ranks as totally independent.

But as trends come and go, one Academy Awards feature never changes: Price Waterhouse — the accounting firm that year after year, delivers "the envelope, please." Those stiff guys from Price have paid a price, enduring endless jokes by encores from Bob Hope to Billy Crystal as they

try to fit in with the evening's glamor. Sample this silliness from Hope: "Isn't that a great name for an accounting firm — Price Waterhouse? In England, that's a pay washroom." Or "I want to announce that the awards will be held up for a few minutes — Price caught Waterhouse with an eraser."

Price Waterhouse began counting Oscars in 1936. There was no sealed-envelope secrecy in those days. The results were given to reporters before the ceremony

even began.

But in 1940, guests arriving at the gala event were astonished to read about the winners in an early edition of the *Los Angeles Times*. Oops. After that, a veil of secrecy descended on the balloting, and it has yet to be violated.

Frank Johnson, who retired last year after 21 years as the firm's man at the Oscars, recalls one incident. "We were counting the final ballots in a conference room with a big picture window overlooking the city. Suddenly, a crew of window washers came down

from above. I thought, 'Is somebody going to this extent to peek at the balloting?' But it turned out they were legitimate window washers."

Sometimes the race is close, Johnson said. "In that case, we recount the ballots to make sure of the results. Once we had a tie." That was for best actress of 1968: Katharine Hepburn, *The Lion in Winter*, and Barbra Streisand, *Funny Girl*.

Johnson, who is now chief financial officer for Rysler Entertainment, has been replaced by Greg Garrison, 44, a Price partner. "We work with the Academy the year round as their financial auditors," said Garrison. "There are two separate processes in the vote-counting: the nominations and the final result."

Price Waterhouse makes sure the ballots go to the 5,371 eligible Academy voters, then six to eight employees count the ballots, along with Garrison and another partner, Lisa Pierozzi. They check that the ballots are valid and discard those that are mislabeled or tardy. Totals are tabulated in such a way that only the two partners know the results.

March 17 was the deadline for this year's balloting. Following several days of tabulation, the two partners will meet tomorrow morning to prepare the envelopes. "The names of all the nominees are printed for us on separate

cards," Garrison said. "We take the appropriate winners from those cards, place them in the envelopes, and seal the cards we didn't take. Those are locked up so no one could determine the ultimate winner."

The winning envelopes remain in our possession or are locked up until the show."

The ballot counters are accustomed to the usual jests from people who want to know the results. Frank Johnson recalls being at a rehearsal when Chevy Chase offered him \$1,000 to reveal one winner. "Obviously he was kidding," says Johnson, "but it was a real thousand-dollar bill."

Competitors of Price Waterhouse have tried to win over the Academy account, since it's about the best publicity an accounting firm could ever have. But the Oscar folks remain loyal, and once each year Price basks in its fame. So do the ballot counters.

It's curious that in this computer age, the Academy ballots are still counted the old-fashioned way. "We've often talked about whether we should computerize it," comments Johnson. "For reasons of security, we've stayed away from it. Even in a computerized system, you still need to touch each ballot once and put it into a computer. It seems to work reasonably well the way it is." (AP)

Oscar predictions

Best Picture: *Titanic*. *LA Confidential* could spring a surprise.

Best Actor: Jack Nicholson. *Good Will Hunting* is a strong contender to collect his third Oscar.

Best Actress: Helen Hunt. *As Good As It Gets* is a strong contender.

Best Supporting Actor: Burt Reynolds. *Boyz n the City* is a strong contender.

Best Supporting Actress: Gloria Stuart. *The Edge of Tomorrow* is a strong contender.

Best Director: James Cameron. *Titanic* is a strong contender.

Best Screenplay: Curtis Hanson. *LA Confidential* is a strong contender.

Best Music: James Newton Howard. *As Good As It Gets* is a strong contender.

Best Editing: James L. Conway. *LA Confidential* is a strong contender.

Best Production Design: James L. Conway. *LA Confidential* is a strong contender.

Best Costume Design: James L. Conway. *LA Confidential* is a strong contender.

You can't be all things to all people

Sabra Sounds



By Emily Hauser

The members of veteran pop quartet Hakol Over Habibi have just released their first album in nine years, and the three original members — Yuval Dor, Kiki Rotstein and Ami Mandelman — were recently sup-

plemented by a new songstress, Sharon Nastovich, but their PR machine would have us believe that Hakol Over Habibi is "the only Israeli vocal group to have lasted more than 23 years."

In my book, a hiatus of nearly a decade plus a new singer add up to

a comeback, not a sign of consistency, but who am I to quibble? What really matters, of course, is whether the group's current incarnation as expressed on *Mi shemedaber al ahava* ("Whoever Talks about Love") was a good idea. And while I know that there are plenty of people out there who will argue with me — and vociferously — I'd have to say no.

It's not that the album is bad. The voices and harmonies are pretty, the music pleasant, the sentiments seemingly earnest. But neither is the disc terribly good.

This is a slice of the kind of pop which tries desperately to be all things to all people. You can feel the singers' face-cracking smiles on each track, you can almost hear them urging you to join in on the chorus. The songs feature the occasional hint of jazz or soul, but the sense is that these are here mostly to demonstrate how versatile we can all be as we sink comfortably into more of the same old, same old.

The one song that manages to create a fresh pop moment is the disc's penultimate entry, the sweet *Et lakol* ("A Time for Everything"). Yuval Dor's Ecclesiastes-inspired lyrics are supported by music which blends Celtic and klezmer influences seamlessly, and vocals in which the singers finally sounds as if they're singing for the fun of it, and not to make a good impression.

I HAVE a great deal of respect for Jango (or, as his birth certificate reads, Amir Roussiano). One-



Jango

third of the long-defunct but much-missed band Ta'arot Ascot, and a veteran member of fellow-Ascot Jeremy Kaplan's excellent back-up band, Jango decided a few years ago to add solo work to his repertoire while continuing to work with Kaplan. He brought with him his sterling skills as a bassist, years of composing experience, and an apparently sincere desire to do something original.

He is also one of the few artists working today who puts out real, honest-to-goodness rock 'n' roll, not the pop pabulum so many Israeli musicians try to pass off as rock. For this I not only respect him and bandmates Ran Shimoni

and Noshi Paz, but I am also deeply grateful.

I came to Jango's sophomore release *Merhak shel meter* ("Distance of a Meter") with fear and trembling, however, because his debut effort had been a real disappointment. While there is much to admire in the new CD, I have to admit that it, too, has proven disappointing.

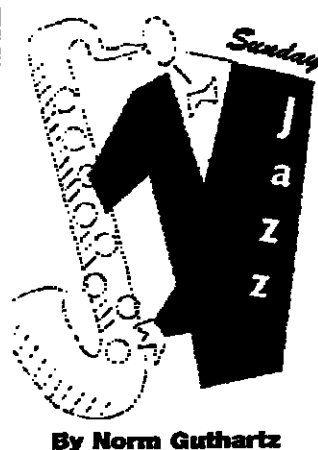
Musically, this is a feast of rich, well-produced rocking sound. Guitars, bass, drums, the occasional piano and string instrument are carefully layered, each element providing full support for the others, each making the right musical statement for the moment. There are any number of terrific opportunities for head-banging, but a deft hand keeps the disc balanced so that it doesn't slip into noise for noise's sake.

Where Jango fails to meet this potential is in his vocals and lyrics. He wrote the words and music to all but one of the tracks, and the former simply do not match the quality of the latter. Moreover, for all the depth of sound behind him, Jango's voice is thin, his delivery un-mannered. One gets the impression that his vocal range is terribly limited and he's just doing the best he can — not the impression you want to create. It's too bad. I really wanted to love this album.

DID YOU KNOW?

Q: Who was the third member of Ta'arot Ascot?
A: Assaf Amdurski, who launched a successful solo career soon after the band's demise.

Tenor madness



By Norm Guthartz

To take a twist on Marshall McLuhan's big line, it's not just the medium that's the message, it's also the format. Take CDs. Some jazz musicians have trashed digital recording for lacking the warmth of analog — remember LPs? — replacing it with a sharpness that works against the music.

But those little discs can hold a lot more music without interruption, so all sorts of limitations, like how many songs fit

close out the number.

They swing extra hard on "The Song Is You." Shull kicks off with them, and Alexander leaps in from behind him to take center stage for the first in the chain of solos in this frantic version of the Kern standard.

Lamala, Shull and Alexander take long rides on Sonny Stitt's "Nother Fu'ner," a rollicking blues that's short on melody. That's more than compensated for here by the relentless R&B-style groove provided by the Melvin Rhyne Trio. Throughout the disc, the saxmen rely on the solid backing of organist Rhyne, guitarist Peter Bernstein and drummer Kenny Washington, all of whom get a shot at trading volleys with the Triangle.

From the sound of things, like CDs, the Tenor Triangle is format whose time has come.

THERE'S NO one way to play a ballad, and no musician has an internal dial on his soul which he turns to "mellow" to produce some generic emotion.

Clifford Jordan is a case in point. His 1987 album for Criss Cross, which recently reached Israel on CD with two bonus tracks, shows the veteran saxophonist giving readings that range from deeply soulful to forcefully eloquent, as on Thelonius Monk's "Pannonica." His own "Royal Blues" starts with the tension-filled duet by Kevin O'Connell on piano and Ed Howard on bass, drummer Vernell Fournier signs on with a funky beat and then slips back into a sultry pace when Jordan steps up with his carefully measured delivery. The emotional treatment changes on "Lush Life" as well. Jordan's slow and wistful opening leads into the quartet's brightly swinging take on the Billy Strayhorn standard. He peppers his spare play with quick runs and smooth vibrato to wonderful effect.

On another bit of standard Ellingtonia, "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," Jordan brings a thin, funky sound to the fore, alternating that with low, rumbling notes. O'Connell and Howard then step up for their own solid solos, and Jordan has an exchange with longtime colleague Fournier.

Jordan is at his most soulful on "Everything Happens to Me" and "Round Midnight," using his softly rolling vibrato at the end of each short intricate statement to deepen the sentimental mood. Sentimental without being maudlin. This is a consummate, mature artist recorded in top form who knows the music and how to stretch to express himself. The result is a satisfying hour of listening pleasure.

Spring winds for Abu Ghosh

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Gershon Cohen, the able impresario who has single-handedly revived the grand choral tradition of Abu Ghosh and has managed to turn the Abu Ghosh festival into one of the highlights of the local classical music scene, has come up with a new idea. He approached choral conductor Haim Tsur and told her his latest dream: to hear the sound of woodwinds reverberating in the Abu Ghosh church. The result is the first ever Spring Winds Festival, which will take place in the Abu Ghosh churches this Friday and Saturday.

Tsur, the music director of the Ramat Gan Chamber Choir and of the Succot Abu Ghosh Choral Music festival, had eagerly accepted Cohen's challenge. But soon enough she found out that the job is not that easy. "Aside from the 20th century, there is actually very little solo repertoire for winds. In the 18th and 19th centuries winds were not accepted as solo instruments," explains Tsur. "The idea of this festival was to present wind music without keyboard or strings accompaniment. I believe that aside from 20th-century music we have covered the entire existing repertoire."

And so this coming weekend there will be six different wind concerts in the serene Arab village on the outskirts of Jerusalem. The musicians are the best local wind players, "although there are other very good musicians who approached me when the program was already full," she says.

The music ranges from the Baroque through Mozart and Beethoven to Rossini, Verdi and even Villa Lobos and Debussy.

The works performed in the coming festival range in style and scope from quintets and quartets to recorder ensembles, and include several works for a single wind instrument.

"There is a very special magic and aura when one instrumentalist is playing inside a church. There is something very spiritual about it, something magical," says Tsur.

As far as she recalls, this is the

first festival of its kind in Israel, and she promises it will not be the last one. "But for the next one the program will have to be different. We will either have to go to contemporary music or to much larger ensembles. Otherwise we will have to present winds playing together with keyboards which will widen the possible repertoire in a most significant way."

Those attending the festival this weekend in Abu Ghosh will also be able to enjoy one concert of choral music, as Tsur's own Ramat Gan Chamber Choir will perform works by Saint-Saens, Janacek, Mozart and Liszt, as well as Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. This special concert concludes the Abu Ghosh musical winter series of Saturday noon choral concerts.

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TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS LAST WEEKS ON	WEEK	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	1	MADONNA	RAY OF LIGHT
#2	8	CELINE DION	LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE
#3	RE	O.S.T	TITANIC
#4	7	HAIM MOSHE	HATMUNOT SHE
#5	2	VIA	KOLOL MIN HASAMAM
#6	3	VIA	KOLOL MIN HASAMAM
#7	4	MICHA SHITRIT	MASHMERIM VE
#8	5	ARKADI DUCHIN	COCHAV HAHAVA
#9	23	AQUA	MOZART IN EGYPT
#10	19	YEHUDA POLIKER	LIVE IN CAESARIA
#11	11	YEHUDA POLIKER	JUBILEE CELEBRATION
#12	14	AVIV GEFEN	HALULIM
#13	21	AQUA	AQUARIUM
#14	13	LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY	POSTCARDS
#15	10	O.S.T	FLORENTINE

Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week.

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Easing up on Cuba

Washington's hard line on Cuba since the end of the Cold War has always seemed to outsiders more about domestic politics — even Florida Cuban immigrant politics — than with any sensible foreign policy. The Cuban government is not anyone's favorite, but the crushing US sanctions on the island have done nothing to weaken Fidel Castro's grip on power, nor have they contributed anything to American security. Compared with Washington's recent liberal dealings with Vietnam and China, its policy on Cuba in the '90s has seemed more like "commie-hating" paranoia from the '50s.

The new measures to ease the stranglehold a little, announced by President Bill Clinton over the weekend, represent a small but perhaps significant step in the right direction toward rehabilitating Cuba. Particularly welcome is the humanitarian emphasis in the new concessions. Family remittances of up to \$1,200 a year sent home per household may seem paltry by American standards, but such a sum would be seen as small fortune by many poor Cuban families. Combined with the lifting of restrictions on the transfer of medicines via international organizations, it is these poorer Cubans who should feel the victory for common sense over policy.

Bill Clinton continues to tread carefully for these self-same domestic politics that have kept the harsh Cuba policy in place for 36 years. He is likely the hard-line opponents of all that Cuba stands for immediately reacted with howls of protest. These ranged from Senator Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to the Cuban exiles in Miami, just 90 miles from their homeland and the most virulent Castro activists on earth. Helms co-sponsored

the Helms-Burton law that only two years ago tightened the US economic embargo against Cuba.

It appears Clinton has Pope John Paul II to thank for the breathing space that allows him to ease the pressure on Cubans. The pontiff's historic visit to Cuba in January was almost wiped out of world media coverage by the Iraqi crisis, but its significance continues to have reverberations in Washington and Havana — and even in Miami. Probably the only thing that Castro and anti-Castro Cubans could agree on was their mutual respect for the pope. Hence the Cuban dictator was obliged to make some major concessions to his distinguished visitor on religious freedom and political detainees, while the noisy anti-communists of Florida have noticeably mellowed since the visit.

Barring any further idiocies from Castro — such as his 1996 shooting down of two unarmed planes flown by anti-Castro activists which killed the four crewmen — Clinton may be able to push the window of opportunity a little further open and end this strange anomaly of a superpower in fear of a flea-sized irritant like communist Cuba.

That said, of much greater importance than a change in American policy on Cuba is the need for a change of government in Havana. The annual United Nations report on Cuba, released yesterday, says Castro continues to violate human rights by persecuting dissidents and banning free speech, despite hopes for wider tolerance raised by the papal visit. It also attacks the miserable economic state and the abysmal prison conditions where some detainees have languished for decades. The economic and political state of the Cuban people is not evidence of the success of the US embargo — it is proof of the abject failure of Castro and communism.

China's economic warlord

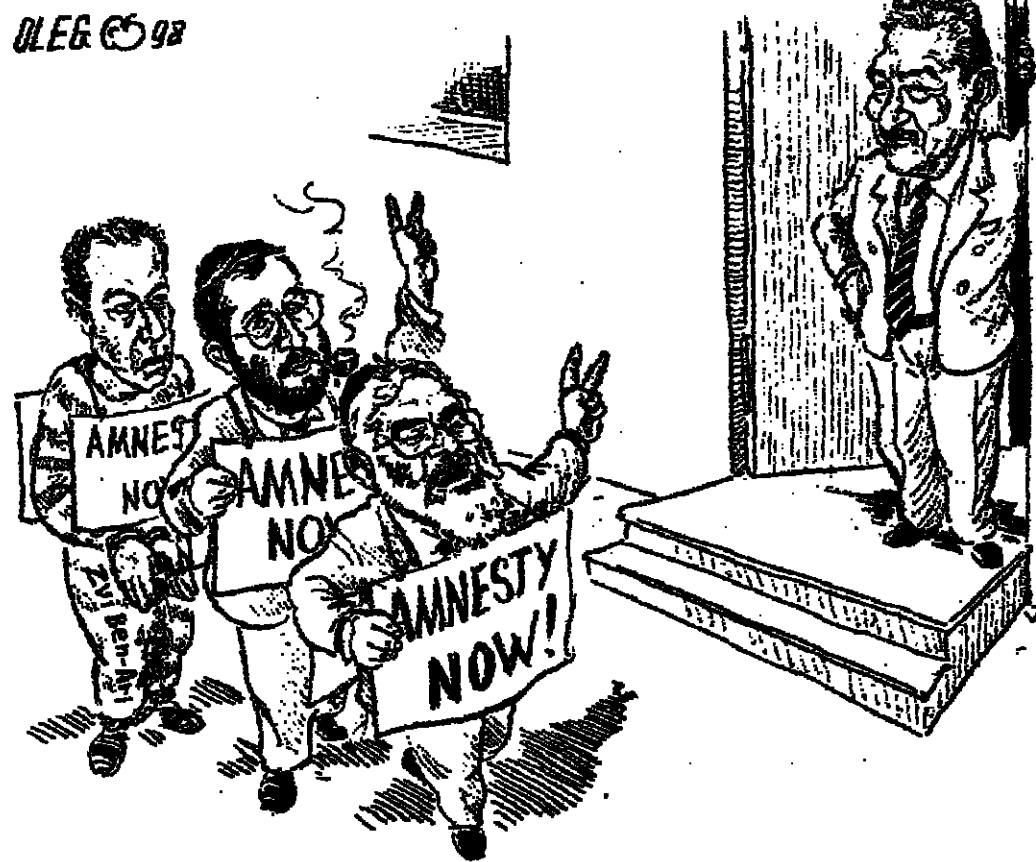
The new premier of China, Zhu Rongji, is known for his lack of humor and short temper, as well as for his intense dislike of the clichés pinned on him by frivolous Western media — such as "China's Gorbachev."

So no one was surprised that his first policy statement since being chosen by the National People's Congress last week was a dour message of tough times ahead, economically and politically. With the Asian economic crisis rumbling along China's borders, tarnishing even Hong Kong's glitter, Zhu's message was that he intends to crush mercilessly China's old and inefficient economic system. Nor did he hesitate to start at the top — the number of ministries was slashed from 40 to 29. Further down the ranks, the massacre of the inefficient will be bloody — four million bureaucrats will be fired this year. Commercial banks — most of them near bankruptcy — will be recapitalized and their debts put

under the scrutiny of a tough new central bank.

The message may be as tough, dour and short-tempered as Zhu himself, but it is good news for China if the new premier can carry out his program. And despite his super-serious character, Zhu is popular with ordinary Chinese people, especially those in business, because his no-nonsense, no-frills, approach to life includes an outspoken contempt for public servants who are corrupt or inept. He is perhaps the first Chinese premier one could credit with a huge measure of public support, even if his election was sealed by the thump of a rubber stamp. He will need that reservoir of respect when the firings begin to bite into China's ample supply of public-office deadwood, and even if he is not a political Gorbachev, he deserves some goodwill for his ambitious plans. If he succeeds, the Chinese will be happy if he turns out to be no more than "China's Zhu Rongji."

OLEG 98



Clinton's shortsighted policy on Iraq

HENRY KISSINGER

When President Clinton was asked at a press conference on February 23 whether he lacked a strategy for dealing with Iraq, he replied: "Since 1991 our strategy has been to keep the sanctions on, keep Iraq from rebuilding its military might and threatening its neighbors ... but our strategy depends in no small measure, I believe, on whether this agreement is honored."

But a floundering inspection system is a tactic, not a strategy. Strategy must define what we are trying to accomplish and whether our means are relevant to our ends. The failure to develop such a strategy has seen Saddam Hussein, crisis by crisis, transform the political situation in his favor.

America's policy in the Gulf starts with the dilemma that we are pursuing sanctions against the two strongest countries in the region, both of them hostile to us. But as dual containment is under enormous pressure from all directions, including recalcitrant allies either to sustain or modify it from

in the inspection of presidential sites — an idea proposed by Saddam and endorsed by France and Russia, whose policies consistently oppose ours in the Gulf.

More important is the significant change in the psychological and political relationships. Administration statements of widespread international support notwithstanding, we have maneu-

Saddam has done much better than return to the status quo ante. Iraq's capacity for evasion has no doubt been enhanced by the hiatus in inspections

vered ourselves into a position where, in many parts of the world — including continental Europe — America, and not Saddam, appears as the problem. Despite administration assertions, I believe that, in another inspection crisis, support for us will be even weaker than it was the last time.

Like proverbial generals obsessed with fighting the last war instead of the likely one, administration spokesmen are focusing on possible reactions to new challenges to the inspection scheme. In all probability, however, the next major challenge from Iraq will not be over inspection but over the lifting of sanctions. Saddam is likely to use meticulous behavior in the inspections as a wedge for demanding the end of sanctions. The UN secretary-gen-

eral has said that settlements are illegal according to international law. Even the US continues to demand that Israel suspend settlement activities in the occupied territories, East Jerusalem included.

Israel can confiscate land for public use, with the help of its army. Israel can bring bulldozers and cut up the land. With money, settlements for exclusive Jewish use can be built, as well as bypass roads, again reserved for Jewish use, to connect the settlements with one another and the rest of Israel. All this can take place due to military might and financial incentive. But neither money nor power can make the indigenous Palestinian people of the land disappear just because Israel refuses to recognize them and their inalienable rights.

It was another example of our congenial national difficulty in relating political to military objectives and in understanding implacable hostility, especially the effectiveness of Saddam's murderous internal control system. The decision was of a piece with the stopping of military operations in Korea in 1951 as soon as negotiations started and of the bombing in Vietnam in 1968 in order to induce Hanoi to negotiate. In each case, the easing of pressures

If we cannot negotiate with Saddam, we must try to weaken or, if possible, to overthrow him

ensured a prolonged stalemate.

In Iraq, the decision to end the war and the hesitant way in which the cease-fire has been administered since have landed us in a stalemate we have been unable to break with pressure and are unwilling (rightly so) to end with negotiations.

Throughout, the administration response has been driven by two psychological legacies of the Vietnam protest: an enormous reluctance to use power and the insistence on justifying the threat of force by the widest multilateral backing. In every crisis we have confined ourselves to restoring the status quo ante (if that), avoiding the real issue — which is that no creative Gulf policy is possible until Saddam is removed or made totally impotent.

THE present crisis really started in August 1996, when Iraqi troops overran the autonomous Kurdish enclaves established in northern Iraq at the end of the Gulf War. Hundreds were killed and at least 3,000 individuals associated with us were exiled. The United States responded with cruise missile attacks against military installations in the south of Iraq, nearly a thousand miles from the place where the challenge occurred and on a scale that could not affect the military balance.

In addition, Clinton administration officials were quoted in the *Washington Post* of September 4, 1996, as saying that they were not demanding withdrawal of Saddam's assault forces, because "if you make going back to the original lines the issue, you are asking for an endless debate whether he has done so or not."

The Clinton administration went along — three months later, in December 1996 — with a food-for-oil deal according to which Iraq could sell \$2 billion worth of oil annually for the purchase of food. The rationale was to "isolate" Saddam by separating enforcement of the military provisions from the well being of the population. The idea that strengthening Saddam's domestic position would ultimately weaken him did credit to our humane values if not to our grasp of Iraqi realities. Inevitably, the current crisis started within a year when, on October 29, 1997, Saddam in effect suspended inspections.

See CLINTON, Page 9

The View From the East

Empty rhetoric

DAOUD KUTTAB

The Israeli position regarding Jewish settlement activity in Jerusalem reminds me a lot of the Arab stance held for a couple of decades earlier this century. In their anger at the creation of the state of Israel, Arab rhetoric reached the level that many thought that if you refrain from using the word *l-e-a-a-e-l*, then the state of Israel will cease to exist.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu seems to think that if he says enough times that Jerusalem is Jewish, and repeatedly announces that it is the eternal undivided capital of Israel for ever and ever, then Jerusalem's 200,000 Palestinian Arabs, their lands, properties as well as holy sites dear to billions of Christians and Moslems will just disappear.

If a planned visit by British Foreign Minister Robin Cook to Jabel Abu Ghneim (Har Homa) with Palestinian leader Faisal Hussein can make the Israeli government shudder, then the unshakable Israeli hold on Jerusalem is quite shakable after all.

This week, the United Nations again stated that settlements are illegal according to international law. Even the US continues to demand that Israel suspend settlement activities in the occupied territories, East Jerusalem included.

Israel can confiscate land for public use, with the help of its army. Israel can bring bulldozers and cut up the land. With money, settlements for exclusive Jewish use can be built, as well as bypass roads, again reserved for Jewish use, to connect the settlements with one another and the rest of Israel. All this can take place due to military might and financial incentive. But neither money nor power can make the indigenous Palestinian people of the land disappear just because Israel refuses to recognize them and their inalienable rights.

NETANYAHU was upset that Robin Cook was greeted by Palestinian Legislative Council member from Bethlehem, Salah Ta'amri. Ta'amri, who lives a stone's throw from the proposed site of the Jewish settlement, was able to visit the site without having to ask permission from anyone. But had Netanyahu been able to prevent Ta'amri from meeting Cook, another Palestinian would have showed up. In his short encounter, Ta'amri reminded the world what is meant by the preamble of UN Security Council Resolution 242. Issued after the 1967 occupation of Palestinian lands, including Jabel Abu Ghneim, the world community stated the "inadmissibility of

The row over Cook's visit should wake Israelis up from their deep slumber

occupying land by force," and the need for Israel to withdraw from occupied Palestinian territories.

The Israeli-British row over Cook's visit to Jabel Abu Ghneim should wake Israelis up from their deep slumber. Hypnotized by US protection, Israel thinks it can do and say what it wants in defiance of the world community, and get away with it.

In 1917, another British foreign secretary, Lord Balfour, promised support for the Jewish people to set up a state in Palestine. In 1948, the Jews of Palestine celebrated the United Nations' narrow General Assembly vote to partition Palestine into a Jewish state and an Arab state — with Jerusalem as an international city.

Now, the United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of the European Union, is asking Israel to stop settlement activity in and outside Jerusalem as the prerequisite for peace. The General Assembly of the United Nations overwhelmingly voted in condemnation of Israeli settlement activity on Palestinian lands in Jabel Abu Ghneim.

Israel has two choices. Either it accepts the basic conditions for peace, namely to stop settlement activity and redeploy from the West Bank and Gaza and thus enjoy the favor of the international community. Or to reject the world's call for the exchange of land for peace.

The land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean includes two peoples. Either there is one state both people or two states for two people.

Apartheid is not an option. Just as the Arab denials of the existence of Israel didn't change its reality, so Israel's denial of the prerequisites for peace, the pleadings of its US and European allies, will not change the reality. We Palestinians know all about empty rhetoric.

The writer is the director of the Institute of Modern Media at Al Quds University in Jerusalem.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ONE-SIDED

Sir, — In response to your editorial "Mixing out on Cyprus," (March 15), I would like to point out the following to you.

The last offer of Mr. Klerides to President Denktash is nothing more than a purely political and diplomatic maneuver. In your editorial you say that Turks should take advantage of the "golden opportunity" presented to them and jointly negotiate with the Greek Cypriots about joining the European Union. However, you fail to demonstrate any concrete benefits that the Turkish Cypriots would receive. On the contrary, the Turks would not themselves, in a subservient position, be an instrument of "peace and stability" and "Enosis."

Denktash's offer to the Turkish Cypriots of Northern Cyprus of having a "delegation instead of a Republic of Cyprus" delegation is nothing more than empty rhetoric. They have no interest in the prosperity of the entire Cyprus. They are only making this offer in order to legitimize their unequal and unjustifiable accession to the EU.

His half-hearted offer has done nothing but escalate the tensions that the ethnic Greeks have been fostering over the past twenty-five years.

Despite international condemnation, we view our presence on the island as not hostile. On the contrary, we are promoting ethnic peace. What the world calls the "Turkish invasion of Northern Cyprus" was in fact a peace operation to save our people from an eminent massacre by the Greeks. Your advice to pull out of Cyprus is clearly based on one-sided information.

MOHAMMED MUMEYITZ

Tarzana, California.

YANK SOU THAM

Sir — Sam Crbaum's delightful column on "Spawners" "Born with a spindly goon" (March 15) takes me back many years to my late father, who loved them.

I remember at 18 running a very self-indulgent poetry group at my home in Melbourne, full of "wandering intellectuals" that my father thought hilarious. We had just begun reading our deathless

verse one evening when in walked Dad, carrying a bunch of gum leaves from the eucalypt tree in our garden.

Bowing to everyone, he announced: "Enter the Fairy Queen, with a wonderful bunch of bums."

DVORA WAYSMAN

Jerusalem.

SLOPPY JOURNALISM

Sir, — As a journalist for over 10 years and part of the haredi community, I read with skepticism your article about the haredi woman who was supposedly raped by foreign workers, and whose husband, a *kohen*, was "forced" by a rabbinical court to divorce her.

In a case of sloppy journalism, the *Post*, in its first story on the affair, did not seek out a halachic authority to verify the Jewish law in such a case, but rather quoted the law as stated by Yehudi Ahronov, which later admitted the story was a hoax.

Most telling was the quote at the end of the article by former religious affairs minister Uzi Baran (Labor) who said that the incident could contribute to widening a rift between the secular and religious communities. It seems that whoever was responsible for this story had just this goal in mind.

MEIRA SVIRSKY

Jerusalem.

WHY?

Sir, — It is hard to understand why *The Jerusalem Post* keeps printing the anti-Israel articles by Daoud Kuttab. What's more, these articles appear without any editorial corrections, as witnessed by Kuttab's repeated use of "President" Arafat (instead of Chairman).

DR. JACOB ROSIN

Netanya.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On March 22, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the financial troubles in US and political upheaval in Germany had considerably questioned the tempo of industrial development in Palestine — there was no money in the banks and the successful establishment of new factories.

50 years ago: On March 22,

1948, *The Palestine Post* reported from Los Angeles that the US Secretary of State, George Marshall, accepted full responsibility for America's unexpected reversed policy on Palestine, in view of the "vital elements of America's own national security," as he recommended it to President Truman, who approved it.

25 years ago: On March 22, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported from Moscow that the Soviet law imposing a head tax on emigrants with higher education had become a dead letter — it would not be repealed, but the Russians would not enforce it.

Alexander Zvielli

Back to kitsch

THE JERUSALEM POST

BY N. E. POWERS

A we

DAVID BEN-SHAI

Back to kitsch

AT THE AUCTIONS

To the amazement of many, prices of 19th-century narrative, genre and salon paintings have climbed over the last decade. Until the '80s, well-painted kitsch, even by well-known names, was regarded with revulsion by an increasingly sophisticated market. But the dearth of good Barbizon and Impressionist paintings – and their high prices – found dealers pushing sugary oils and watercolors that, surprisingly enough, began to sell. This is no doubt the reason why Sotheby's are again mounting a distressingly mixed sale of 19th-century European oils, drawings and watercolors in London on April 2. And on May 7, Sotheby's New York will offer six super-smooth high kitsch oils by William Adolphe Bouguereau (1825-1905), one of them with an estimate in excess of \$1m.

The London sale is a sadly mixed bag, with a wide variety of chocolate-box covers, chiefly by German, Austrian, French, Italian and Spanish painters, as well as representatives of Belgium, Holland, Russia and Denmark. All are virtually unknown except to dealers.

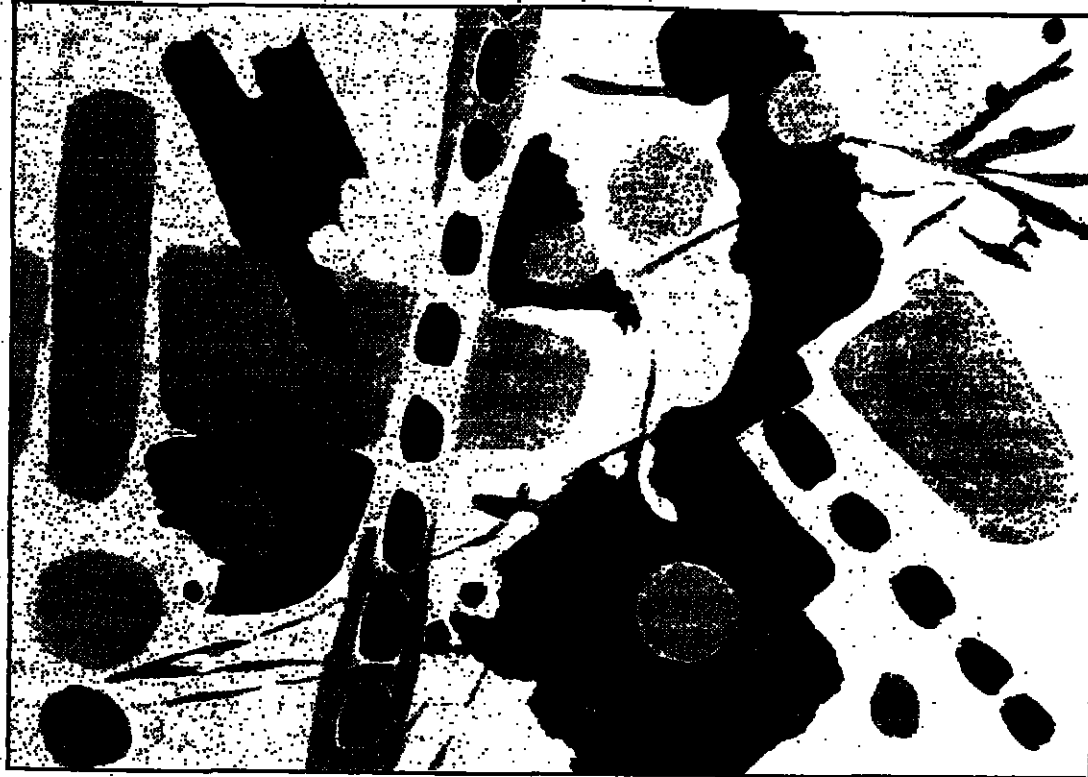
There are bevy of bare-breasted oriental beauties and dancing girls, peasant children of all persuasions, pseudo-classical scenes with more topless temple maidens, farm animals, pets, views of Venice and the occasional clever military illustration, like *The Surrender*, painted in Munich in 1890 by Rudolph Ritter von Ottenfeld (£8,000-£10,000).

One name that will ring a bell is that of famed biblical illustrator and anti-Dreyfusard Gustave Doré. His unsympathetic oil of a Whitechapel Jew holding a baby, painted in London in 1878, has an estimate of £20,000-£25,000.

Six boulevard scenes of Paris at dusk by Edouard Cortes (1882-1969) all have strongly situated vanishing points in perspective but lack the singular vision of lesser Urbs, on whom they appear to be based. (They are from £6,000-£15,000 in estimate.) I usually covet at least one work in every sale. Not in this one.

SOTHEBY'S LONDON sale on Tuesday of Impressionist and Modern Art, including ceramics by Picasso and others, is also replete with kitsch, the worst of which are the unlikely lovelies of Jean-Gabriel Domergue, valued around £6,000, but in my view not worth tuppence. There are just a few oils by Marquet and Boudin worth consideration, a terracotta *Madonna and Child* by Henry Moore (£30,000-£40,000), and a nice 1924 watercolor by Kandinsky (£30,000-£40,000).

ODDLY ENOUGH, at least in the light of recent contemporary offers, Sotheby's sale of contemporary art in London on Wednesday is the most stimulating of this week's sales. One must note that despite the appellation "contemporary," some of the artists are no longer with us. A number of the offers are paintings on paper, which makes their prices all the more interesting to a deeper strata of potential bidders. For instance, there's a lively abstraction in gouache by Germany's Ernst Wilhelm Nay (1902-68) from 1954 (£15,000-£18,000) and a rich gouache from 1963-4 by the late French abstractionist Serge Poliakoff (£7,000-£9,000) both of which would brighten any wall. A



Ernst Wilhelm Nay: untitled gouache, 1954, £15,000-£18,000 at Sotheby's London



James Jacques Joseph Tissot: Mavourneen (Kathleen Newton), drypoint and etching, 1877, £3,500-£4,000 at Sotheby's London

bold abstract oil by Poliakoff from 1969, the year of his death, has an estimate of £18,000-£25,000.

Not everything comes cheap (a relative term): an elegant classic Calder mobile painted white and painted a meter and a half across, has a hefty estimate of £60,000-£80,000 (a memorial show of Calder's work opens next week at Washington's National Gallery). A Josef Albers (1888-1976) Homage to the Square entitled *Contralto*, as usual in oils on masonite board (and usually painted over about six layers of gesso sealing this incredibly absorbent surface) is in four colors (£15,000-£20,000; not a high price). A Sam Francis (1923-94) oil from 1958 has a higher estimate of £25,000-£35,000.

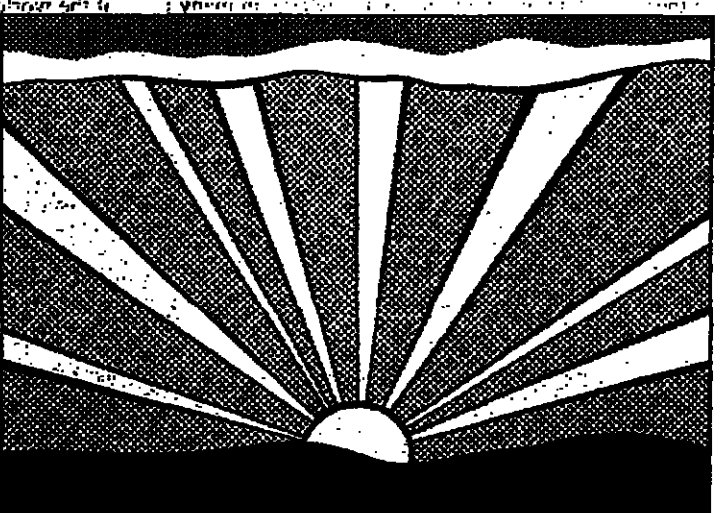
An evenly painted yellow canvas with three typically well-placed vertical incisions, made in 1967, adds up to a typical Lucio Fontana (1899-1968), and a really hefty estimate of £45,000-£55,000. Valued slightly higher is a collage of fabric, oil paint and vinavil on canvas from the late '50s by Alberto Burri (1915-95) but I find it quite unexciting, despite its textures and cracking.

There are two geometric and colorful abstractions by Zurich's Max Bill (1908-94), whose work is rarely seen at auctions. One canvas here relates to that of Lohse and Itten (Bill, a rather bad-tempered man at times, would have hit me for saying that); it's an ingenious arrangement of repeated squares of color and should go higher than its top estimate of £15,000.

ALSO AT Sotheby's London this



Pio Ricci: 'The Courtship,' oils, circa 1913 (£15,000-£20,000 at Sotheby's London)



Roy Lichtenstein: 'Sunrise,' offset lithograph, 1965, (£700-£1,000 at Sotheby's London)

Wednesday is a fine sale of Old Masters, 19th- and 20th-century and Modern prints, 453 lots in all and nearly all worth examination. The range is tremendous, from Rembrandt to Tissot to Esteve and Hockney. There are dozens of Tissot prints from the Michael Wentworth Collection on offer, a number of them of the artist's favorite model and mistress Kathleen Newton. James Tissot's 19th-century drypoints from the '60s and '70s are fantastic fashion-plate illustrations; the one of

three women on the deck of the s.s. *Calcutta* has a top estimate of £12,000. Picasso, Rouault, Miro, Renoir, Redon and even some erotics by Felicien Rops lead on to Victor Pasmore, Zoran Music, Roy Lichtenstein and Damien Hirst. This sale should be a hit.

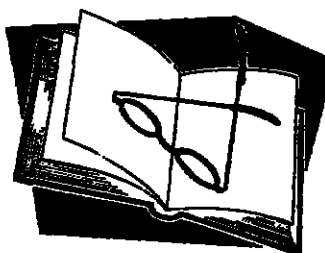
A GERMAN lithographic film poster nearly two meters high, for the film *King Kong*, 1933, sold for £6,000 at Christie's London earlier this month.



Judith Viorst's 24th book dispels the notion that we are masters of our destiny. (Los Angeles Times)

Making the best of one's 'imperfect control'

Books



By Pamela Warrick

LOS ANGELES – It was a gray, sleeting winter morning, and Judith Viorst was packed and poised to begin her tour to New York, Washington, Chicago, St. Louis, Portland, Oregon, and Los Angeles to promote her book on controlling your life.

At the airport, she found out all the flights had been canceled. Undeterred, she made her way to the train station and bought a seat to D.C.

Somewhere between Washington and Chicago her luggage was lost, and halfway through her first night in the Windy City the Viorsts' neighbor back in Washington phoned to say that their house was on fire. Damage was confined to the kitchen.

Ten days of ice storms, floods, lost hotel reservations and still-missing luggage later, Viorst is sitting cross-legged in the corner of a Beverly Hills hotel room recounting the trials of her journey.

"It's like some big cosmic joke. I'm carrying around this book on controlling your life... and, as you see, my life has not been under my control. I've tried to make the best of it, but I can assure you it has been very, very strenuous."

As bad as Alexander's famous terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day?

"Oh my, yes," sighs Alexander's mother. "It was like Alexander's day and then some."

But who better to deal with such stress than a woman once honored by the American Psychiatric Association for "contributions to the mental health of the nation?"

Viorst has been crisscrossing the country talking about her latest effort to polish the American psyche – *Imperfect Control* (Simon & Schuster). It's a sometimes-poignant, sometimes-witty self-help book that uses poetry, anecdotes, Freud, Piaget, Deepak Chopra and others to dispel the notion that there is any such thing as perfect control.

Although her all-time best seller remains the story she wrote to soothe her troubled 4-year-old son after a particularly rotten day – *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (MacMillan) has sold more than 1 million copies since it was published in 1972 – Viorst's newest book can be read as a grown-up version of the Alexander book.

Viorst, 67, has written fiction, nonfiction, children's stories, adult mysteries, screenplays, poetry and songs. Married for 38 years to Middle East scholar Milton Viorst, whose own book on Islam is due out in spring 1999, Viorst has a special interest in the balance of power between husbands and wives, parents and children.

WHEN SHE began work on her 24th book three years ago, it was with the idea of sharing some of the insights gleaned from six years of psychoanalytic training and four years of personal analysis at the Washington Psychoanalytic Society.

Still, she says, she was unprepared for how the book would take control of her life.

"This book became an obsession," recalls Viorst. "I was thinking about it in the shower, thinking about it in the car. I couldn't stop thinking about it, no matter where I was. Once you start looking at the world in terms of control issues, you see, it really is impossible to stop."

Indeed, here is Viorst on language as a tool of control: "Baby Beluga!" commands my grandchild Miranda, and her mommy flips on the tape deck and plays that tune.

"Grandma Judy, dance!" commands Miranda, and I leap from my chair.

On sex as control: "We cannot know 'the wild chaos of love' unless we risk dissolving the boundaries of self. We cannot know the wild ecstasy of passionate sexual love unless we risk surrendering control."

On guilt as control: "Isn't it easier to feel guilty sometimes? Easier to take the blame, easier to believe that there is something you could have done to avoid this awful thing that's happened rather than to feel that you have no control, to know your life is out of your control?"

"When people get mugged, they feel better if they can blame themselves," says Viorst. "They need to feel guilty as a way of reassuring themselves that

they're not simply walking along the edge of an abyss."

Viorst blinks her large brown eyes and daintily adjusts her oval-framed glasses.

"We've all been there, from seeing something awful happening to those we love and being desperate but powerless to stop their pain to believing that you can make yourself perfect by writing down those same New Year's resolutions year after year."

"The search for perfect control over your kids, your spouse, your work, even your death is very difficult to give up. That's because when you have the illusion of control – that brief burst of euphoria you get from being the master of your fate, the captain of your soul – you feel on top of the world. Until the next crisis."

"That's the point of the book – control what you can; just know when to stop."

FOR VIORST, the Phi Beta Kappa overachieving mother of three boys, learning how to stop trying to control her children's lives has been especially difficult.

The same eager-to-please mommy Alexander blamed for forgetting to put a dessert in his school lunch and for serving him lima beans for dinner and for allowing his Mickey Mouse night light to burn out continues to wonder what, if anything, she can do to make her children's lives "as perfect as possible."

"I never claimed to be the perfect mother."

I made mistakes. Well, everybody did.

But God, I was so glad to be his mother.

And God, oh God, oh God, I loved this kid.

Patience and laughter and trips to the beach and tickles and song. Did I do something wrong?"

For Viorst, true control is nothing more nor less than self-control, and assuming responsibility – not blame – for the way we live.

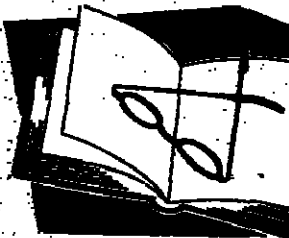
"When all these things were happening on my way out here I felt like there was a huge dark cloud over my head," says Viorst, hugging her knees.

"I wanted to go home, curl up in a ball and forget the whole thing. But I didn't. I kept going even as things seemed to get worse and worse. That's what you call 'imperfect control.'"

(Los Angeles Times)

A workable recycling plan

Earthly Concerns



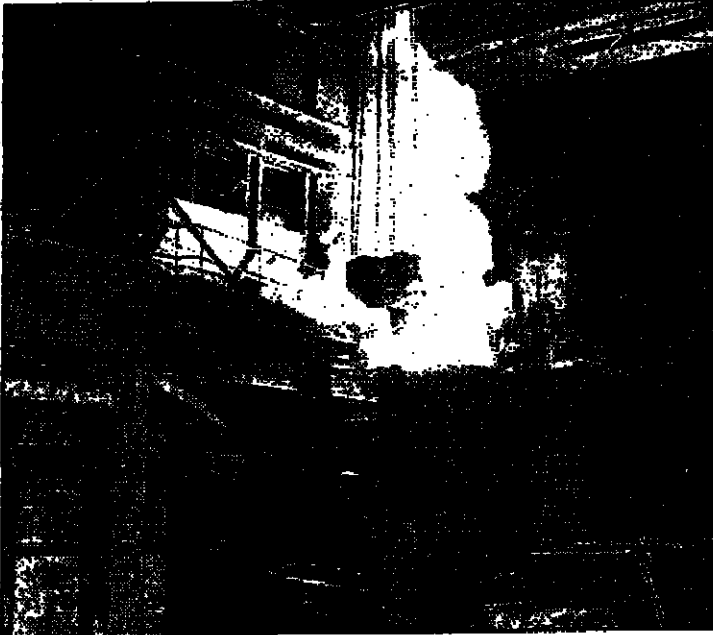
By D'vora Ben Shaul

When we speak of converting from a throw-away economy to a recycle-reuse one as a basis for a sustainable environment, we almost automatically focus on the recycling of household waste.

While this aspect of a sustainable economy is important, it is only a small part of the picture. Most readers will be amazed to learn that in the US, at least 55 percent of the steel produced is made from scrap metal.

This is made possible by electric arc furnaces. One of the best examples of the use of such furnaces is the state of New Jersey.

Although it is a rather small state, New Jersey is very densely populated. It has 13 paper mills,



The US produces at least 55 percent of its steel from scrap metal.

all of which process used paper. There are also eight steel mills that process only scrap iron and steel.

Each year, these mills sell and/or export one billion dollars' worth of recycled steel and paper.

These activities reduce the burden on natural resources and, in the bargain, provide jobs for almost 25% of the residents of the state.

These workers are by no means at the top of the economic ladder but at the same time, New Jersey

has fewer families living on welfare than any other state in the American northeast.

The state planners have not stopped there. They are planning, within the next two or three years, to establish a recycling plant for aluminum, one for plastics, and another for glass. When these projects are set in motion, at least 40% of the local residents will have permanent jobs.

It is true that this recycling work is somewhat labor intensive, but proponents point out that while it may not be the most highly paid work in America, earning a wage that allows a family to have food, shelter, clothing and some savings is better than being a welfare client.

Some critics have charged that New Jersey's plan has created a state of blue-collar workers. If that is so, the planners say, better a blue-collar worker than one who does not work at all.

Only the future can decide the wisdom of these decisions.

For now, we are caught between the tides of what is and what we think should be. One thing, however, is clear. Recycling can be profitable both to the community and to the environment.

CLINTON

Continued from Page 8

In each of the two military confrontations that followed, in November and then again in January/February 1998, the administration vitiated the impact of its deployments in the Gulf by the plaintive manner in which it justified them and by coupling them with gestures which deprived them of impact.

It is axiomatic that, when American forces are deployed, they must convey an impression of implacability. But during the November deployment, the State Department spokesman spoke of "carrots" available to Saddam if he readmitted inspectors, and the president's security advisor stated that "if it is resolved satisfactorily and Saddam comes into compliance, let the inspectors back in, we would be in favor of having more available under UN supervision for food."

During the February crisis even this conditionality was abandoned and the United States went along, two days before the secretary-general visited Baghdad, with a doubling of the amount of oil Iraq could sell under the system of sanctions. As a result, Iraq is now free to export two-thirds of its maximum previous exports, turning it into the

eighth largest oil exporter in the world. Indeed, Saddam is asking for help with spare parts so that he can boost his production to the permitted level.

The trumpet's sound was rendered even more uncertain when, at the height of the crisis, three aircraft carriers found themselves in the Gulf due to a long-planned rotation. That we went through with the rotation and withdrew the third carrier surely conveyed business as usual rather than implacability.

INEVITABLY, Saddam emerged from the crisis in a politically and psychologically strengthened position. He has changed the topic from inspection to the lifting of sanctions and has complicated the task of creating a multilateral coalition against him. As time goes on, and if oil should become scarce again and prices rise, the pressures to deal with Iraq will increase.

These trends are also certain to complicate America's delicate evolving relationship with Iran. A shilly-shallying America is bound to strengthen hard-liners in Teheran, who will argue that a more moderate course toward America is unnecessary since confrontation presents few risks, and that they can impose unilaterally what America seeks on the basis of reciprocity.

It is therefore imperative to develop a long-range policy for the Gulf – especially toward Iraq. Bipartisan proposals are being floated to rebuild an Iraqi opposition insurgency and wage political warfare to bring down the regime. This would represent a serious strategy provided we have the tenacity and the means to bring it off.

Before embarking on such a course, we must make a cool evaluation of our capacities, either to overthrow Saddam or to weaken him to a point where patriotic Iraqis will overthrow him. An operation of a magnitude required to overthrow Saddam, though labeled "covert," cannot remain covert for long. And when it becomes overt, we must be sure that we are prepared to pay the price rather than abandon those we encourage to action – as we did the Kurdish leaders in 1996.

Whatever strategy we adopt, we will have to make clear that opposing American policies is no longer a free ride, as it has been for France and Russia in the recent crisis. Above all, we must be honest with ourselves and avoid letting our verbal policy get ahead of our actions policy to a point where it jeopardizes our global credibility.

(Los Angeles Times Syndicate)

'Rebuilt' Temple open for virtual visits



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

The Beit Hamikdash, a CD-ROM in Hebrew and English, by Torah Educational Software and NG Media, Pentium required, for all ages, sold by The Jerusalem Post's Book Department and other outlets. NIS 159.

Rating: *****

The longing of the Jewish People for the restoration of the Holy Temple that were destroyed has been so strong that some of our contemporaries are resorting to premature and sometimes ludicrous acts – from trying to breed a pure red heifer to raising newborn kohanim in isolation so they can perform priestly rituals after their 13th birthday. The rest of us are willing to wait for the Messiah to come – in his own good time – and herald the building of the Third Temple.

Although animal sacrifices are part of the past, youngsters in state-religious schools and yeshivot must memorize obscure and detailed biblical descriptions of the Temple, the Ark of the Covenant, the inner and outer courts and the Holy of Holies – with its cherubs, beaten-gold decorations and woven curtains. Nevertheless, it's very difficult to visualize.

But now, with this pioneering CD-ROM, produced at great expense and with content advice from a rabbi, one can go on a virtual, three-dimensional tour of the Holy Temple as described by Ezekiel and other prophets.

The trip is a fascinating tour de force. There isn't a soul to be seen on this journey – not the high priest nor even a slaughtered bull or

sheep. The architecture is virtual, but the sacrifices had to be sanitized for a contemporary culture that preaches against killing animals not meant for human consumption.

The main section of the program is the Temple tour, accompanied by solemn music. Deposited at the main entrance, the user must click when he or she sees a hand on the screen and go in any of four directions. Visitors can zoom around, mount the ramp of the white-and-gold altar (click at the right place and it's set afire), pass by the image of the Four Creatures and click to raise the huge water urn used to wash the hands and feet of pilgrims who arrived at the holy site.

Although only the High Priest was permitted to go into the Holy of Holies – and then only on Yom Kippur – the user can enter this august place, which looms above the altar. Inside are the golden menorah (click in the right place and it lights up with flames); the incense altar (another click and it produces smoke); and the showbread table (click to see the bread on a stand).

If you reach the veil at the end of the Holy of Holies from the correct angle, click and it dissipates to show a vision of the Ark of the Covenant, with the Ten Commandments inside. But this vision is evanescent, just so you don't take it for granted.

Any location in the Temple is linked with the appropriate verses where it is mentioned in the Scriptures; click on the reference and the actual quotation appears.

CLICK THE right mouse button to find what looks, incongruously, like the remote-control device of a TV set. With it you can visit the library, the gallery, the baking workshop, the sacrifices workshop and the virtual map of the Temple.

The library contains the entire text of the Bible in Hebrew and English; just click on the book and chapter you want. There is also an impressive Temple lexicon in both languages with over 100 different terms listed by alphabetical order. Each term is explained in much

detail, and a click at the bottom of each page flips the page over like that of a real book's.



With this pioneering CD-ROM by Torah Educational Software, one can embark on a virtual, three-dimensional tour of the Holy Temple as described by Ezekiel and other prophets.

The hypertext library also has shelves marked with topics, such

as ritual objects and events, which are subject headings containing items from the lexicon in Hebrew and English. The interactive map shows the bare Mt. Moriah, but a

click at a dozen spots builds the Temple, piece by piece. A flag can be shifted to any spot on the mount, and when you go into the Temple tour, you are automatical-

ly deposited in the selected place.

The gallery is a room with various ritual objects used in the Temple: the seven-stringed lyre (it will have eight strings when the Messiah comes, the program says); silver trumpets blown by the Levites; a water urn for Succot; a censor for burning coals; and the Ark of the Covenant with the tablets inside. Click any of them and they grow in size and rotate for a good look.

In the baking workshop, recipes for ritual halls and other breads used in the Temple are presented: then the user must click the semolina, water, oil and ingredients in the correct order before they magically fly into the oven.

The sacrifice workshop shows a sheep, cow, goat and turtledove; click each for an explanation of the requirements for the sacrifices, but again, there's no blood here.

The only extremely minor glitches I found was the misspelling of the Hebrew word *shetar* (for remote controller), with a *av* instead of a *et*, and a few English spelling errors, such as *bathes* instead of *baths* and *comandment* instead of *commandment*. But these are infinitesimal compared to the superb job done to produce this program, which will be enjoyed and studied by children and adults, Jews and non-Jews alike.

Classical Judaica Photo Collection I, a CD-ROM in English, by Sweetchild Software (Internet site at <http://www.sweetchild.com>), for all ages. NIS 125.

Rating: *****

With the growing popularity of desktop publishing, this collection of Judaica photos on a CD-ROM will be welcomed by those who produce synagogue newsletters and other Jewish-oriented publications. Children who have to decorate their reports with Jewish ritual objects will also find it handy.

Sweetchild Software, a Jerusalem company which has previously produced CD-ROMs with collections of Jerusalem photographs and

kosher recipes, assembled the 208 beautiful pictures of Jewish ritual objects with help from the Cohen and Moses galleries in Israel.

Although photographs are usually copyrighted by their owners, this disk allows anyone to use the collection freely. The program is accompanied by a booklet showing all of the entries.

There isn't a single person in the photographs – only museum-quality objects. They are listed alphabetically, from alms boxes to a woodcut of the binding of Isaac. *Hanukkiyot* are the most frequent entries, and to serve the purpose of users, Sweetchild offers not only different styles of Hanukkah candles, but also several with one to eight candles lit in them to illustrate the separate days of the festival.

Every ritual object one could think of is there. Two unusual photographs show a Shabbat halla sitting on top of a Pessah matza, and an assortment of kippot, from colorful crocheted to haredi black.

The user can view all the photographs by clicking a button to see a slide show or choose them one at a time. Photos can be manipulated and edited: flipped over, turned into a negative or given a mirror image.

Those who want to produce a video show from the ritual objects can spiral in or out, wipe the image from right to left or vice versa, fill the image in or out or have it begin as unclear pixels.

The only glaring omission from this disk is a description of the objects. One gets absolutely no explanation of the ethnic origin, historical period or other data about the objects on display, except a one-word category.

When contacted, the company's Danny Youlus-Susskind said that it is now working on thumbnail sketches that purchasers of the disk will be able to download from the company's Web site, which would be helpful – to those with Internet access. One would hope that the next version of the disk will have detailed descriptions of each object included.

'Post'-modern matchmaking

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Going to an office for a personal interview and fearing that you'll be seen by others are perhaps the most embarrassing things about seeking a suitable mate through an expensive matchmaking agency. But computer technology now makes it possible for individuals to act as their own matchmakers. By setting down their preferences and corresponding anonymously by e-mail, they can communicate with potential mates until both sides are ready to meet. Participants can take control of their fates without third-party intervention.

Knowing how difficult it is for unmarried people to meet suitable mates and interested in an additional business opportunity, *The Jerusalem Post* has launched a new Jerusalem Post Personals service through its Internet Edition, along with Jewish Communication Network (JCN), a leading Jewish Internet company in North America. JCN also offers a Web magazine, daily Jewish news over the Net, holiday material and Jewish chat groups.

The new service is suitable for finding either a life partner or a pen pal. It is accessed through *The Jerusalem Post Internet Edition* (at <http://www.jpost.co.il> or <http://www.jpost.com>), by clicking the Post Personals button, or directly to its personals service (at <http://www.jpostpersonals.com>). There, individuals can register their personal profile for free, using an alias. Users also tick boxes on a computerized form to create a profile of the ideal person they want to meet. Among the variables are place of residence (anywhere in the world), age, height, build, marital status, religion, level of observance, education, personal habits and whether one wants or has children. In this way, one can find a friend on any continent. Photographs can be scanned and displayed along with the alias and one's message to a potential friend.

Instead of the sometimes embarrassing "nudge" from a matchmaker, the Post Personals

THE JERUSALEM POST PERSONALS
PUT THE FUN INTO ROMANCE
YOUR MEETING PLACE ON THE NET

Max Looking for women
Women Looking for Men
Pen Pals

Select a category above and an age group below to let us know what you're looking for.

Age From: To:

Region:

Promoting love and friendship through the personal computer. Privacy and confidentiality are ensured, allaying the fears of those who shy away from matchmaking agencies.

service features a "smart agent" that takes the individual's particulars and requisites in order to select a partner. Through sophisticated programming, it provides a selection of suitable matches from among the people registered. To date, there are 7,000 registered.

When someone catches your fancy, you may send a message, which the administrators of the service receive first. The person for whom the e-mail is meant is notified by e-mail, inviting him or her to check his/her e-mailbox at the company.

Every time somebody who joins the database matches the criteria you set in your request, you receive an e-mail message.

Listing one's profile in the

database is free to anyone over 18. Subscribers who pay \$9.95 a month (debit by credit card) for the service may contact you by e-mail; but if you want to initiate contact with anyone from the database, you have to be a paying subscriber as well. Members can amend their profile – either widening or narrowing their preferences – or cancel their subscription at any time.

New York-based JCN cannot check the veracity of people's self-described profiles, but it does filter out "those who seem unsuitable. There was a case of someone who was thrown out for using objectionable language," says Alon Goren, the company's vice-president. Subscribers who don't

have Internet access can have messages printed out and dispatched to them by ordinary mail.

Goren says the computer technology married to the e-mail system ensures privacy and confidentiality, allaying the fears of those who shy away from matchmaking agencies.

"This service is exciting," says Derek Farrel, *Jerusalem Post* deputy director of electronic publishing, "because it promotes two traditional human values – love and friendship – through personal computers which people use for hours a day. Together with JCN, we have designed a personals service that is not only sophisticated and interactive but also great fun."

Why some like it hot

ITHACA, NY – Fans of hot spicy cuisine can thank traditional making bacteria and other food-borne pathogens for the recipes that come – not so coincidentally – from countries with hot climates.

Humans' use of antimicrobial spices developed in parallel with food-spoilage microorganisms, Cornell University biologists have demonstrated, in a international survey of spice use in cooking.

The same chemical compounds that protect the spiciest spice plants from their natural enemies are at work today in foods from parts of the world where – before refrigeration – food-spoilage microbes were an even more serious threat to human health and survival than they are today, Jennifer Billing and Paul Sherman report in the March issue of the journal *Quarterly Review of Biology*.

"The proximate reason for spice use obviously is to enhance food palatability," says Sherman, an evolutionary biologist and professor of neurobiology and behavior at Cornell.

"But why do spices taste good? Traits that are beneficial are transmitted both culturally and genetically, and that includes taste receptors in our mouths and our taste for certain flavors."

"People who enjoyed food with antimicrobial spices probably were healthier, especially in hot climates. They lived longer and left more offspring. And they taught their offspring and others: 'This is how to cook a mastodon.' We believe the ultimate reason for using spices is to kill food-borne bacteria and fungi."

More than 4,570 recipes from 93 cookbooks representing traditional, meat-based cuisines of 36 countries were studied. Other data included the temperature and precipitation levels of each country, the horticultural ranges of 43 spice plants, and the antibacterial properties of each spice.

Garlic, onion, allspice and oregano, for example, were found to be the best all-around bacteria killers (they kill everything), followed by thyme, cinnamon, tarragon and cumin (any of which kill up to 80 percent of bacteria).

Capsicums, including chilies

and other hot peppers, are in the middle of the antimicrobial pack (killing or inhibiting up to 75% of bacteria), while pepper of the white or black variety inhibits 25% of bacteria, as do ginger, anise seed, celery seed and the juices of lemons and limes.

The Cornell researchers report that countries with hotter climates used spices more frequently than countries with cooler climates. Indeed, in hot countries nearly every meat-based recipe calls for at least one spice, and most include many spices, especially the potent spices, whereas in cooler countries substantial fractions of dishes are prepared without spices, or with just a few.

As a result, the estimated fraction of food-spoilage bacteria inhibited by the spices in each recipe is greater in hot than in cold climates. Accordingly, countries like Thailand, the Philippines, India and Malaysia are at the top of the hot climate-hot food list, while Sweden, Finland and Norway are at the bottom.

The US and China are somewhere in the middle, although the Cornell researchers studied these two countries' cuisines by region and found significant latitude-related correlations.

The biologists did consider sev-

eral alternative explanations for spice use and discounted all but one.

The problem, for example, with the "eat-to-sweat" hypothesis – that people in steamy places eat spicy food to cool down with perspiration – is that not all spices make people sweat, Sherman says, "and there are better ways to cool down – like moving into the shade."

The idea that people use spices to disguise the taste of spoiled food, he says, "ignores the health dangers of ingesting spoiled food."

And people probably aren't eating spices for their nutritive value, the biologist says, because the same macronutrients are available in similar amounts in common vegetables, which are eaten in much greater quantities.

However, the micronutrient hypothesis – that spices provide trace amounts of antioxidants or other chemicals to aid digestion – could be true and still not exclude the antimicrobial explanation, Sherman says.

However, this hypothesis does not explain why people in hot climates need more micro-nutrients, he adds. The antimicrobial hypothesis does explain this.

(The Quarterly Review of Biology)



Researchers say that spices were traditionally used to kill bacteria, not to enhance taste.

(Erwin Schenkelbach)

'Fear and stress, not unsophistication, made caveman artists simplistic'

By MAGGIE FOX

Cave paintings, carved heads and masks from long-dead Stone Age people and art works from current-day tribes all have the same simple quality. Anthropologists and other experts once dismissed the crude faces, which lack detail and proper proportion, as evidence that the artists were unsophisticated or unsophisticated.

But a Harvard University psychiatrist has another explanation. Stone Age tribes were just plain stressed out, said Dr. Anneliese Pontius of the Harvard

Medical School. Constant fear – of dangerous animals, evil spirits and other tribes – changes the way the brain functions, she said.

Basically, the brain takes shortcuts under stress so it can work faster in dangerous situations, Pontius told the American Association for the Advancement of Science. These shortcuts are reflected in art and may show up in other ways as well. "They are not stupid mistakes or childlike errors or intellectual inferiority," Pontius said after testing people ranging from the Dani and Asumat hunter-gatherers in Indonesia to Asian

Inuits and Aucas in the Amazon. "These hunter-gatherers live under pervasive threat to their lives from other tribes and animals – from snakes and even insects."

Pontius wanted to test brain function. Since most tests reflect culture and require the subjects to be literate, she used two tests that can check visual and spatial functions in the brain – the simple draw-a-person-with-face-in-front test and one in which the volunteer uses four colored blocks.

Pontius found that people at a Stone-Age development level draw simpler versions of faces than literate people.

Faces drawn by modern-day hunter-gatherers looked much like the faces depicted by early humans.

"It's not a cultural difference because it exists in dyslexics," she said, referring to people with a fairly common reading disability. She also found that babies, who are primed to respond to faces, reacted more quickly to the simpler, Stone-Age style faces.

The differences in the tests are subtle. For instance, literate people usually draw the bridge of the nose narrower than the tip and include the brows above the eyes, while nonliterate and dyslexic people

make fewer such distinctions. What could be happening is that the brain is using a shortcut – in this case the subcortex – to process information. Brain processing in the subcortex is faster, by about 250 milliseconds, Pontius said.

"If your life is at stake, 250 milliseconds may mean life or death," she said. One does not need subtle distinctions to flee from a snake or recognize an enemy's face, she suggested, but this becomes a habit in continually strained people. Any processing goes first through the subcortex and then, if it is a more subtle type and has detail, it goes

through the cortex," she added.

The subcortex evolved earlier and is a kind of pre-processor in the brain. Pontius tested people with dyslexia and with brain damage affecting subcortical processes and found the same effect.

She said her findings also vindicated the primitive groups, who some researchers had dismissed as intellectually inferior. Pontius, who is also a child psychiatrist, says her theory could explain why inner-city children fall behind in school. They are stressed out and afraid, she suggested. "It reflects the behavior of people in fear for their lives."

(Reuters)

A blind determination to succeed

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Going over piles of notes and books for a test or to research a school paper is difficult enough — but think about doing it without being able to see. Many blind people do very well in regular schools, but no one — at least until now — has understood how they manage it.

It took Asnat Alon, a 32-year-old master's degree student at Ben-Gurion University who happens to be blind, to explain this phenomenon. In the course of her MA final project, for which she received an honors citation, Alon conducted intensive interviews with six blind teenagers studying at regular junior and senior high schools in the South, and examined their learning strategies.

She was accompanied on the interviews, and assisted throughout, by her BGU adviser, Prof. Ran Hoz of the education department.

Hoz says, that to his knowledge, Alon is a pioneer in investigating this subject, whose implications will interest blind

people and educators of the visually impaired around the world.

ALON WAS born with retinitis pigmentosa, a congenital condition in which the retina progressively loses its function due to abnormal pigmentation. Three of her four sisters also have the same illness, due to the fact that their parents are close relatives.

She had quite a normal childhood, but gradually her field of vision deteriorated. When she reached high school, she could see only under certain conditions and was not drafted into the IDF. But this determined young woman volunteered for army service, and even though by then she could barely see more than light and shadows, she worked as a telephone clerk for her commanding officer.

She then went on to do her bachelor's degree in education at BGU. After graduating, she phoned in to an Israel Radio program, *Yesh Im Mi Ledaber*, and discussed her desire to continue studying. The producers brought BGU president Prof. Avishay Braverman on the air, and

his support led to a generous three-year scholarship that enabled Alon to pursue her master's degree.

Alon knows of only two other blind students at BGU, both of them men, but she is not in contact with them because they study in other departments.

Alon lives with her new seeing-eye dog, a golden retriever named Kay, in a four-room apartment of her own that is located a bus ride from campus. She cooks, cleans and shops by herself, only occasionally asking for help at the supermarket. Before getting the dog, she managed to get about with paid accompanying persons or a stick.

"I have a special new IBM computer and a Braille translator that turn printed text into Braille," she says.

She processed her entire 130-page M.A. project by herself, including numerous pages of text from interviews and questionnaires.

WHEN formulating the theme of her project, she began to conduct research on herself.

"I examined how I process and store information and reached certain conclusions. Then I decided to carry out the same process on the pupils, aged 13 to 18, as multiple case studies. It took many hours of work."

Alon analyzed how the pupils learned the material and found that they preferred to go over texts written in Braille rather than recorded cassettes. She was surprised, as she herself usually used recorded material that she repeatedly reviewed and memorized.

The university, she notes, gives a special grant to the visually impaired to cover a small part of the cost of people reading material into a tape recorder. Alon herself was entitled to four to eight hours of such material each week. She also had to appear before a panel of three professors to defend her work.

Hoz explains that sighted people take for granted their ability to flip through books and articles to collect information.

"This cannot be done by the blind. They have to go over Braille text or recordings from the beginning to ardu-

ously find what they're looking for. It's like going through the whole Book of Esther at one sitting, scrolling on and on. They can't jot down notes at the side of a page; they store these things in their head."

The blind learn in an entirely different way from the sighted, and many of them — such as Alon — memorize whole tracts of data. Her findings, which are unique, can be of much help in diagnosing learning strategies in the disabled.

NOW THAT she has completed all the requirements for her degree, Alon would like to earn a respectable living. But finding an employer offering work in her field who is also willing to hire a blind person isn't going to be easy. All her queries so far have elicited offers for volunteer work, or for her to get paid by the hour at below the minimum wage.

"Today I live off my National Insurance Institute allotment for the disabled. I want to be like every Israeli. I don't want to be an unpaid volunteer. I want to support myself in an honorable

way," Alon says with feeling.

"I would like to work with the blind, especially with children, and diagnose their learning difficulties. Then, with my experience, I could suggest ways of improving their strategic learning methods and they would cope better."

Alon has sent out her resume with the information about her visual disability, but in most cases she hasn't even gotten a response.

"I know that if I leave out this information and am invited for an interview, I won't hear from them again. They just don't want to be bothered with a blind employee, even though my expertise results from my disability."

The blind and other disabled are isolated, like outcasts," concludes Hoz, who intends to speak to contacts in the Education Ministry to find the right niche for Alon. "She could perform a valuable service. But she has to be given a chance."

Offers of employment, anywhere in the country, for Asnat Alon can be directed to (07) 648-2148.

Dyslexia, a hidden disability no longer

By CURT SUPLEE and SANDY BANISKY

Scientists have at last been able to identify specific brain malfunctions involved in dyslexia. This discovery could substantially improve understanding of the chronic reading problem that afflicts many people around the world. Equally important, the work provides scientific confirmation "for what has previously been a hidden disability," said lead researcher Sally Shaywitz of the Yale University School of Medicine.

"If you break your arm, you can hold up an X-ray and see it," she said. "But I get calls from distraught parents and even teachers who say, 'My school system denies that there's such a thing as dyslexia.' Well, now they can say, 'Here's the evidence.'"

Dyslexia has been misunderstood by the general public for years. They think it has something to do with "reading letters backwards." But recently, a broad expert consensus has determined that it has surprisingly little to do with recognizing the visual form of words. Rather, dyslexia, which affects 80 percent of all those labeled "learning disabled," entails an inability to break the letters of written words into distinct sounds (phonemes) — a capability called "phonologic awareness."

"We've got real pictures. We can see that something's not working right in the dyslexic brain when it comes to decoding the written word," said J. Thomas Viall, executive director of the Baltimore-based International Dyslexia Association. Viall said the study shows that "dyslexia is not a sight problem, not a hearing problem, not an emotional problem, not an intelligence problem. It's a neurological disability. It's based in the brain. It's real."

Using high-tech imaging equipment, Shaywitz's team found that the brains of dyslexic subjects show very little activity in areas known to be highly important in linking the written form of words with their phonetic components. Split-second images of the brain, taken while the dyslexic person reads, show that such patients have a disruption in the circuit that translates letters of the alphabet into the sounds of speech.

The research shows that dyslexia, a condition that makes reading difficult for otherwise normal people, is a neurological problem and not the result of laziness or low IQ, said Shaywitz. The new work will also be very useful in designing better therapies for dyslexic readers, said Paula Tallal, co-director of the Center for Molecular and Behavioral Neuroscience at Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey. "To do that, you really have to understand the neural mechanism," said Tallal, who was not involved in the research.

Shaywitz and colleagues used a brain-mapping procedure called functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to monitor mental activity in 61 subjects. Like an



Dyslexia has been widely misunderstood for years, but research has shown it to be a neurological problem and not the result of laziness or low IQ, as was commonly believed. (Isaiah Karlinksky)

MRI scan, fMRI provides an image of internal body structures in very fine resolution. It also shows which parts of the brain are most active at a given time.

The subjects were assigned five kinds of exercises. Each required progressively more effort in processing the sound aspects of written language, as distinct from merely recognizing shapes, letters or words. One task, for example, asked whether several nonsense words (such as "leat" and "jeet") would rhyme — a difficult problem for dyslexics. By comparing patterns of activity in dyslexic and normal subjects, the team detected what Shaywitz suspects is "the neural signature of dyslexia" embodied in two very different kinds of responses.

The researchers already had identified the parts of the brain associated with language and reading. In this study, they asked subjects to identify single letters, select

rhyming words and decide whether words belonged in the same category.

The tasks put progressively higher demands on the regions of the brain that break words down to the sounds that their letters represent. Dyslexics had more trouble at each step.

"In order to read it, the reader has to appreciate that the word 'bat' is made up of three sounds — 'buh,' 'ah' and 'tuh' — and that the letters represent those different sounds," Shaywitz said. "The brain is breaking the word down into its underlying sound units."

But in dyslexics, the regions of the brain associated with vision and language function differently from the brains of subjects who have no impairment. The dyslexics had trouble decoding the letters. Researchers described this as "an imperfectly functioning system for segmenting words into their phonological constituents" — the

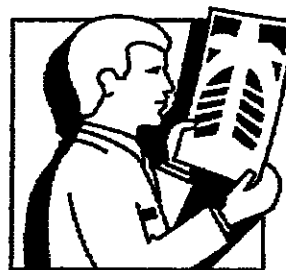
mapping of letters into sounds.

The 32 readers who were not impaired made intensive use of various rear-brain areas, including those known to scientists as the angular gyrus and Wernicke's area. The 29 dyslexic readers, by contrast, showed very little activity in that critical region. Instead, they seem to have compensated by overusing a front-brain section, called Broca's area, traditionally associated with other aspects of language processing and speech. Why this occurs in dyslexics remains unknown.

The research, reported in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* and funded by the US National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, agrees in detail with studies showing loss of ability to read following stroke or tumor damage to the same rear-brain areas. (The Washington Post and The Baltimore Sun)

Feel brighter, lose weight with pasta, bread, potatoes

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

Pass the bread, pasta, potatoes and legumes and lose weight on a complex-carbohydrate diet. Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv developed this program after conducting clinical studies on the connection between eating and levels of the neurotransmitter serotonin.

Hospital chief dietitian Olga Raz and four Ichilov physicians based the diet on the fact that a decline in serotonin levels can cause bad moods and even depression, a reduction in concentration and memory, sleep disturbances, and an increased urge for sweets. But eating complex carbohydrates, such as bread, pasta, potatoes and legumes, increases serotonin levels in the blood, which in turn heightens clear thinking, mood and energy.

The research team prepared three different types of small meals: bread spread with jam; chicken breast with tomato and cucumber; and sour cream. Blood tests were taken from volunteers an hour, two and three hours later. The results showed that the bread, which has a high level of complex carbohydrates, caused serotonin levels to rise significantly, while the other menus actually made the levels fall by an average of 28%.

The Ichilov diet has been followed by hundreds of people, who lost six to eight kilos over 10 weeks.

The hospital has not published a standard diet for everyone, as those who want to try it must have their serotonin level tested by a simple blood test and the types and amounts of complex carbohydrates suited to their taste and weight.

More information can be obtained from Ichilov's dietary service at (03) 697-3347.

THE AGE OF LAWSUITS

Women doctors are 50 percent less likely to be sued for medical negligence than their male counterparts, apparently because of the greater empathy and sensitivity they show toward their patients.

This was disclosed at a conference on law and medicine held recently at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital. Prof. Jonathan Halevy, the hospital's director-general, said that physicians increasingly think not only about the welfare of the patient but about self-defense against lawsuits. This feeling is largely to blame for doctors' tendencies to

send patients for superfluous medical tests.

Never have patients shown such lack of confidence in their doctors as today, said Halevy. The development of technologically advanced diagnostic techniques has contributed to the estrangement between doctor and patient, since the physician depends more on high-tech aids and less on talking to the patient and developing a warm relationship that engenders confidence. In addition, the concept of risk management has penetrated the medical system, with the aim of predicting the risks in medical procedures and reducing failures, he said.

Supreme Court Justice Theodore Orr said that in the past there were few judgments recognizing medical negligence, as doctors observed a "conspiracy of silence" on what was going on in hospitals, giving plaintiffs "little ammunition" in their case against the allegedly negligent doctor. But Orr said that today he senses great discomfort among physicians because of their increased risk of lawsuits.

"They want to carry out their medical function, but they must be careful... and constantly think about the possibility that they will be sued," Orr noted, however, that more medical negligence suits are thrown out of court than other types.

Another development is suits regarding disabled children who are born with a defect and are thus sentenced to a life of suffering. Dr. Rahel Adatto, a Shaare Zedek gynecologist, said parents are beginning to demand that their child be born perfect. Defects detected in the fetus will cause many to demand unjustifiable abortions, she said.

NURSES TO THE RESCUE

The nurses' committee at the two Hadassah-University Hospitals have volunteered to "adopt" all lone immigrant soldiers who want and need family support. Nitzza Avnat, whose organization represents 1,500 nurses, wrote a letter to Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer, head of the manpower division of the IDF, making the offer. Sheffer said he didn't know how many such immigrant soldiers would be interested, but he promised to investigate.

Avnat said her members were inspired to help after all the media reports about Nikolai Rappoport, the Russian-immigrant soldier killed in Lebanon. The nurses and their families will be happy to host soldiers for meals at home. They will even wash their laundry.

BE CAREFUL, BILL

US President Bill Clinton may believe oral sex doesn't constitute adultery, but British doctors warn that it isn't as safe as many people think.

A review of published studies showed that viral infections and the HIV virus can be spread through oral sex. "It is a common sexual practice among both heterosexual and homosexual couples."

"The evidence suggests that HIV transmission can take place through oro-genital sex," Dr. Sarah Edwards, of West Sussex Hospital in England, writes in the medical journal *Sexually Transmitted Infections*.

She also suggested that the spread of HIV infection through oral sex will probably increase as more people avoid other sexual practices that carry a higher risk.



Pile on the pasta — a meal of complex carbohydrates could be the dieter's best friend.

Quantity or quality of life? Very old patients prefer longevity

By SANDRA G. BOODMAN

Forget quality of life. For many very old people, what matters more is quantity of life.

That's what the majority of patients between the ages of 80 and 98 at four academic medical centers in the US told researchers who asked them whether they would trade living one year in their current condition for living less time in excellent health.

The study, published earlier this month in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, is one of the few to examine the health values of very old patients. A team of researchers led by Joel Tsevat, of the University of Cincinnati Medical Center also

asked 300 surrogate decision-makers what they thought these patients would want. These surrogates, who in most cases were spouses or adult children, often guessed wrong; 20 percent incorrectly hypothesized that patients were willing to give up three months of life in exchange for excellent health.

"What we have found is that age, the ability to function independently, and surrogates are not that accurate" as predictors of patients' wishes, Tsevat said. "Our clinical message is that we need better communication directly with patients themselves. There is something more than health that matters a lot."

To determine the values of

elderly patients, Tsevat and his colleagues surveyed a group of people who in 1993 and 1994 were hospitalized for more than three days at four teaching hospitals: Beth Israel-Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, the Marshfield Clinic in Wisconsin and UCLA Medical Center. Patients were interviewed on their fourth day in the hospital; one year later those who were still alive were interviewed again. The results were similar.

The median age of patients, 60 percent of whom were women, was 84.2 years. Twenty-one percent said they were in pain at least half of the time. Tsevat said they resembled typical hospitalized geriatric

patients: They were being treated for a host of chronic ailments including pneumonia, heart disease and diabetes; most had multiple problems. The health of these patients varied considerably and was only modestly correlated with their views about quality of life.

Slightly less than 31 percent rated their health as excellent or very good. Yet overall, 41 percent said they were unwilling to give up any time for excellent health, while 28 percent said they would give up one month at most.

A minority of patients felt differently; six percent said they would prefer to live two weeks or less in excellent health rather than one year in their current state. There was a modest correlation with

depression — patients who were depressed were more willing to give up time than those who weren't. But researchers found no correlation with age, sex, race or level of education.

Tsevat said patients who were unwilling to trade time for excellent health were more likely to want to receive PR and other life-prolonging measures. To Tsevat, the results suggest that a powerful force may underlie the reluctance to trade time for health: adaptation. Numerous studies, he noted, have found that people tend to adapt to illness or disability that they might have previously considered unendurable.

Several years ago Tsevat and his colleagues asked patients who had

been diagnosed with AIDS or the virus that causes it whether they would trade time for better health. Many said no — and Tsevat's team found that even as the disease progressed, the patients' responses remained stable.

Christine Cassel, chairman of the department of geriatrics at New York's Mt. Sinai Medical Center, says this is a phenomenon she often sees with her patients. "A 90-year-old person comes to terms with some disability," Cassel said. "I think many older people are very realistic about accepting health problems that come with old age."

The results of Tsevat's study do not surprise her. "There's no reason why someone who's living with some chronic illnesses should

feel that life is not worth living. It tells us that human beings are adaptable and resourceful." Nor is Cassel surprised that surrogates are often wrong about patients' wishes: "Every study I know of has found significant discrepancies between the wishes of patients and surrogates' responses."

"We've shown that communication between doctors and patients at the end of life isn't so good," Tsevat said, citing a study that found that elderly patients tend to receive fewer invasive procedures than younger patients. "Maybe there is a mismatch between what patients want and what we're giving them in either direction — whether it's too much treatment or too little." (The Washington Post)

Duke moves closer to Final Four

NEW YORK (AP) — Not long ago, a Final Four couldn't be held without Duke. Now, the Blue Devils are one victory away from their first trip back since 1994.

Standing in their way is Kentucky. Top-seeded Duke (32-3), which made seven trips to the Final Four in nine years under coach Mike Krzyzewski before hitting a full, beat Syracuse 80-67 Friday night in the NCAA South Regional at St. Petersburg, Florida.

Freshman Elton Brand had 20 points and 14 rebounds for Duke.

Kentucky advanced with a 94-68 rout of UCLA.

The last time the Blue Devils played the Wildcats at this stage of the tournament was in 1992.

Also advancing to the last eight was Stanford, which showed its depth and strength in a 67-59 victory over Purdue in the Midwest at St. Louis.

On Thursday, Connecticut had three shots at the winning basket, and knocked in the third one at the buzzer. West Virginia also got three shots, but couldn't put one in and

headed home.

Down-to-the-wire games have been the norm in the NCAA tournament this year. Connecticut (32-4) stuck to that script, advancing to the East Regional final when Richard Hamilton hit a rebound jumper at the buzzer. The Huskies edged 11th-seeded Washington 75-74, and will meet North Carolina today at Greensboro, North Carolina.

The top-ranked Tar Heels, closing in on a school record, beat Michigan State 73-58.

West Virginia, seeded 10th in the West, saw Jarrod West misfire on three shots in the final minute, allowing Utah to escape 65-62. The third-seeded Utes (28-3) play defending champion Arizona at Anaheim, California. The top-seeded Wildcats eliminated Maryland 87-79.

Washington (20-10) took its first lead 74-73 with 33 seconds left on a 3-pointer by Donald Watts.

Connecticut's Jake Voskuhl's shot bounced off the rim and Hamilton's follow went off the rim. After it was

tipped from the other side, Hamilton grabbed the loose ball and hit a fade-away jumper over 7-foot (2.13-meter) Patrick Fenerberg, the ball falling through the basket as the buzzer sounded. The Connecticut players all fell to the floor in a huge pile.

Hamilton, the Big East player of the year, finished with 22 points, 18 in the second half.

The top-ranked Tar Heels (33-3) used superior speed and skill to toss aside Michigan State as Antawn Jamison had 20 points and 14 rebounds.

WEST Even the presence of Jerry West, the most famous West Virginia alumnus of them all, couldn't help the Mountaineers pull another upset. Jarrod West's 3-point bank shot in the final second last week gave them a victory over second-seeded Cincinnati, but he misfired three times in the last minute, the final attempt a 3-pointer that would have forced overtime.

Michael Doleac scored 25 points for Utah.

Brent Solheim led West Virginia (24-9) with 16 points.

SOUTH Brand led a 19-3 run after the Blue Devils missed 11 of their first 13 shots in the second half.

Syracuse tied the game at 49 on Elvir Ovicina's putback with just over 12 minutes to go, but didn't score again against Duke's tough man-to-man defense for five minutes.

Shane Batzer finished with 14 points for Duke, which also got 11 from William Avery and 10 from Chris Carrawell. Trajan Langdon was limited to seven points on 2-for-13 shooting.

Kentucky (32-4) used Jeff Sheppard's shooting and the inside muscle of Scott Padgett and Nazr Mohammed in a matchup of college basketball's two most storied teams. Padgett scored 19 points, Sheppard hit for 16 from the outside and Mohammed had 15 points and seven rebounds as they easily outplayed UCLA's senior trio of J.R. Henderson, Toby Bailey and Kris

Johnson, the only remaining players from the Bruins' 1995 title team.

MIDWEST When 7-foot center Tim Young drew his third foul and sat down with 6:41 left in the first half, it actually was the takeoff point for the Cardinal. Stanford finished the first half on a 17-2 run that just about put away Purdue.

The loss meant another bitter end for second-seeded Purdue (28-8), which has also been a No. 1 seed twice in the last five years.

Valparaiso, a 13th seed, wore down at the end of its meeting with eighth-seeded Rhode Island.

Antonio Reynolds-Dean scored 16 points and made three big defensive plays down the stretch for the Rams (25-8).

Bryce Drew scored 18 points, but uncharacteristically struggled in crunch time for Valparaiso (23-10). The smallest school in the 64-team tournament field, Valpo had captured the nation's attention and heart by upsetting Mississippi and Florida State in the first two rounds.

SPORTS

in brief

O'Sullivan grabs gold in women's cross country

MARRAKECH, Morocco (AP) — Ireland's Sonia O'Sullivan overtook Britain's Paula Radcliffe in the final kilometer to win the 8km world cross country title yesterday. She became the first European woman to win a world cross country title in five years.

Kenya's John Kibowen outspurred four of his teammates to win the men's short course 4km event. The powerful Kibowen powered past race favorite Daniel Komen in the final straight. Kenyans grabbed the top five positions with Paul Kosgei taking third place, Benjamin Limo fourth and John Kosgei fifth.

The championship ends today with the junior men's men's 12km event.

Kareem fined for marijuana possession

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former Los Angeles Lakers center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar surrendered a small amount of marijuana to US Customs officials at a Canadian airport and paid a \$500 fine, a customs spokesman said Friday.

Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's career leading scorer, told customs officers Sunday at Toronto's Pearson International Airport that he has migraines and "doctors recommended him using this," said Pat Jones, a Customs spokesman in Washington.

Abdul-Jabbar's office in Los Angeles referred inquiries to the customs service. There was no comment from the retired basketball star on why he had marijuana.

The customs spokesman said the seizure was handled as an administrative rather than criminal matter and there was no arrest.

Rozental has successful surgery

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Chilean striker Sebastian Rozental of the Glasgow Rangers side underwent a "fully successful" surgery to his left leg Friday, the third one in slightly over a year, doctors said.

The 21-year-old player will be allowed to go home within two to three days, Dr. Carlos de la Barrera said.

He called the operation "simple and a total success" to correct ligament problems.

"Seb Rozental was transferred to Glasgow last year by Universidad Catolica de Santiago for \$6.5 million but had barely a few minutes — and scored one goal — when the leg problem appeared."

Australia leave door open for Venables

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Australia will delay the appointment of a new national team coach in the hope that Terry Venables will decide to retain a role, Soccer Australia chairman David Hill said yesterday.

"We will not move immediately to replace the national coach (Venables) and will ask the Olympic (under-23) and youth team coaches to act as caretakers," Hill told reporters.

Venables, whose 19-month contract with Australia expires in July, is considering a job offer from English premier league club

Jordan wants to return next season 'under certain circumstances'

CHICAGO (AP) — Maybe Michael Jordan will be back after all.

Jordan said Friday he definitely wants to play next season, but he still wants coach Phil Jackson back as well.

"I mean under certain circumstances," he said at a shootaround before the Bulls' game against Vancouver. "If I don't feel it's something I'm happy with, I certainly have alternatives."

Jordan, who finished with 24 after going scoreless in the first quarter, did not talk to reporters after Chicago's 98-92 victory.

While Jordan still loves the game, he's repeatedly said he won't play unless Jackson returns as Chicago's coach. But General Manager Jerry Krause has made it clear this season is Jackson's last with the Bulls. And Jackson once said that "wild horses couldn't drag me back." So does that mean Jordan would follow Jackson to another team? "Naaw," Jordan

said. "I'm not weighing the options right now. There's no clear options on the table right now. I

think everything now is speculation. For me to react to speculation is not really worth the energy."

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	27	21	.561	—
New York	27	20	.572	9 1/2
New Jersey	35	33	.515	12
Orlando	34	33	.507	12 1/2
Washington	34	33	.507	12 1/2
Boston	29	37	.439	17
Philadelphia	25	41	.379	21

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	50	17	.746	—
Indiana	47	20	.701	3
Charlotte	43	24	.642	7
Atlanta	40	26	.606	9 1/2
Cleveland	36	30	.545	13 1/2
Detroit	31	36	.463	19
Milwaukee	29	37	.439	20 1/2
Toronto	15	51	.227	34

Thursday's games: Indiana 95, Washington 91; Atlanta 84, Milwaukee 81; Toronto 104, Denver 102. NY Jets 93, Orlando 82; Portland 82, New York 77; Boston 105, Boston 105; Dallas 88, Golden State 82. OKC 92, Cleveland 85.

Friday's games: Indiana 99, New Jersey 92; New York 109, Atlanta 106; Utah 91, Philadelphia 79; Orlando 102, Portland 82; Miami 93, Golden State 87; Detroit 105, Toronto 99; Chicago 98, Vancouver 92; Minnesota 94, Denver 88; Charlotte 92, San Antonio 82; LA Lakers 93, Seattle 80.

WESTERN CONFERENCE Northwest Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	49	17	.742	—
San Antonio	45	22	.672	4 1/2
Utah	35	31	.530	14
Minnesota	34	33	.507	15 1/2
Dallas	16	51	.239	33 1/2
Vancouver	15	51	.227	34
Denver	8	61	.116	42 1/2

Pacific Division

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Jose	50	16	.758	—
Phoenix	47	19	.712	3
Portland	42	22	.657	6
Sacramento	37	29	.561	11
LA Clippers	15	51	.227	35
Golden State	14	53	.209	36 1/2

x-drafted player. OKC 92, Cleveland 85.

NCAA tournament as a glance

Region	Game	Score
East	Connecticut vs. Washington	75-74
West	West Virginia vs. Michigan State	73-58
Midwest	Stanford vs. Purdue	67-59
South	Duke vs. Syracuse	80-67

NHL standings and results

Conference	Division	Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Eastern	Atlantic	New Jersey	41	18	9	91	191	133
		Philadelphia	35	20	11	81	196	151
		Washington	32	25	11	75	181	172
		NY Rangers	22	29	17	61	169	188
		NY Islanders	22	35	19	64	172	192
		Pittsburgh	18	37	12	48	158	209
		Tampa Bay	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Florida	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Carolina	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Atlanta	15	45	9	39	129	214
Western	Central	St. Louis	42	14	10	94	210	137
		Detroit	37	19	13	87	207	163
		St. Louis	36	24	8	80	202	161
		Chicago	27	30	11	65	168	165
		Phoenix	26	30	12	64	184	193
		Toronto	24	34	8	56	157	197
		Los Angeles	35	19	14	84	207	175
		San Jose	31	25	11	73	194	177
		Edmonton	26	33	10	62	176	194
		San Jose	27	33	7	61	164	179
Pacific	Northwest	San Jose	30	24	13	73	178	160
		Buffalo	28	24	15	71	172	157
		Ottawa	27	29	12	66	161	167
		Carolina	26	34	7	59	161	184
		Florida	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Atlanta	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Carolina	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Atlanta	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Carolina	15	45	9	39	129	214
		Atlanta	15	45	9	39	129	214

Thursday's games: Buffalo 4, Florida 3; Boston 4, Toronto 8; Anaheim 3, Philadelphia 3; OKC 92, Cleveland 85. Friday's games: Washington 2, New Jersey 6; Vancouver 1, Ottawa 1; Dallas 4, Carolina 1; Calgary 4, NY Islanders 1.

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BOOK FROM HEBREW to English (American), Philosophy/Psychology. Tel. 08-649-9578(Ben), 03-505-5924 (home). (15465)

VEHICLES
General

UNRESTRICTED

VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT, 1995, white, 1.8, manual transmission, 58,000 km, list price. Tel. 02-533-2107. (790712)

MITSUBISHI SUPER LANCER, 1996, automatic, power steering, bargain, 62,000 NIS, or only 58,000 NIS with April delivery. Tel. Danny (office) 03-517-6248 evenings or weekend (home) 08-928-4482. (791037)

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF, 1995, 1.8, A.C., 5 doors, dual air bags, alarm system, power steering, excellent condition. Tel. 09-950-5717 (home), Tel. 09-950-7086 (work). (790604)

VEHICLES
Jerusalem

PASSPORT

NISSAN ALTIMA, 1994, first hand, 40,000 km., blue, 4 doors, automatic, power steering & door locks, electric windows, immobilizer, dual air bags, ABS, etc. \$10,500. Tel. 02-561-0583. (791835)

UNRESTRICTED

VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT, 1995, white, 1.8, manual transmission, 58,000 km, list price. Tel. 02-533-2107. (790712)

MITSUBISHI, L300, GLX, 1988, 8 passenger, front & rear air conditioner, manual transmission, yearly test, very attractive, brand new engine (including receipt), \$3,400. Tel. 02-993-1580, 050-316-715 (NIS). (15164)

1994 VOLVO 940 GL Saloon for sale, great condition, only 37,000 km., full dealer service record. Phone Derek or Julie. Tel. 02-533-0345.

VEHICLES
Jerusalem

1992 GOLF 3 door, red, 1.8, power steering, air conditioning, tourist only, very nice car, 53,000 km., \$5,900, quick sale, radio-tape. Colin. Tel. 09-742-9517, 052-423527. (790705)

1993 - 4 BMW 325i, metallic maroon, first hand, manual, air conditioning, power steering, sun roof, outstanding car. Available April! Colin. Tel. 09-749-29517, Tel. 052-423-327. (791871)

UNRESTRICTED

I'M BUYING SELLING trading tax free and unrestricted cars, tourist immigrants and sale, 8 passengers, all alarm and protection systems, includes tow carriage. Tel. 02-842-8008, 050-406-349. (16068)

MITSUBISHI SHAMPO, 1994, automatic, 1500 cc, good condition. Tel. 02-563-8808.

VOLVO 740 GL, 1989, station, electric moon roof, automatic, fully loaded, absolutely showroom condition, new tires, test. Priced for quick sale. Tel. 02-993-1453 (NIS), 050-316715 (NIS). (15128)

VEHICLES
Sharon Area

PASSPORT

1994 TWINGO 1.200 CC, manual, air conditioned, Tourist only, 39,000 km, purple, 1st hand, great little car, 15,000 NIS. So quick, it will be sold. Colin 09-742-9517, 052-423-327. (791832)

1994 GRAND CHEROKEE, white, automatic, stereo, air-conditioning, full leather, very clean + outstanding 4x4. Trade in car or cash. Colin. Tel. 052-423327, 09-742-9517.

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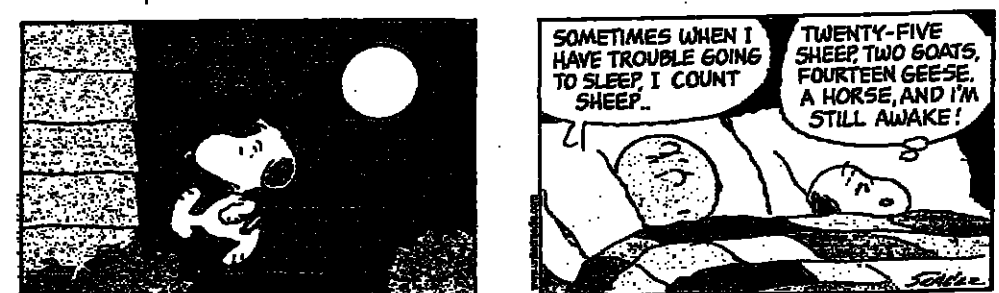
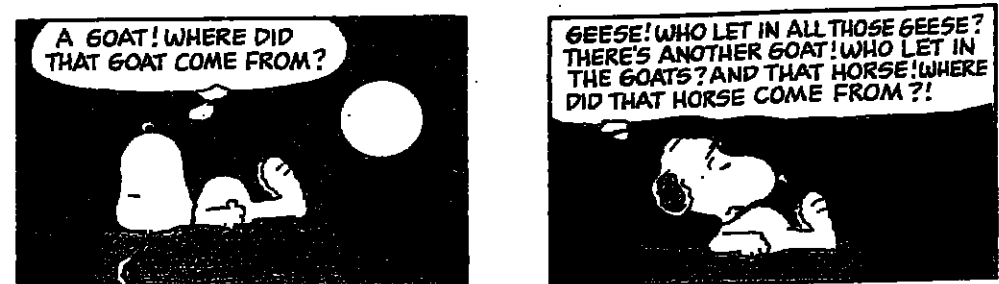
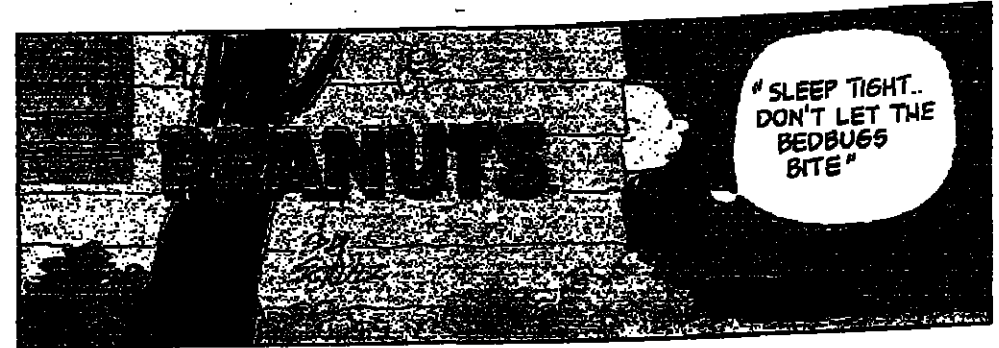
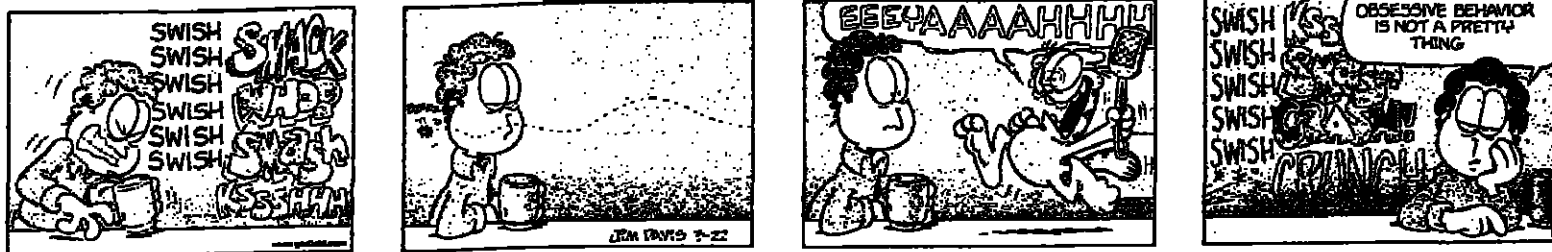
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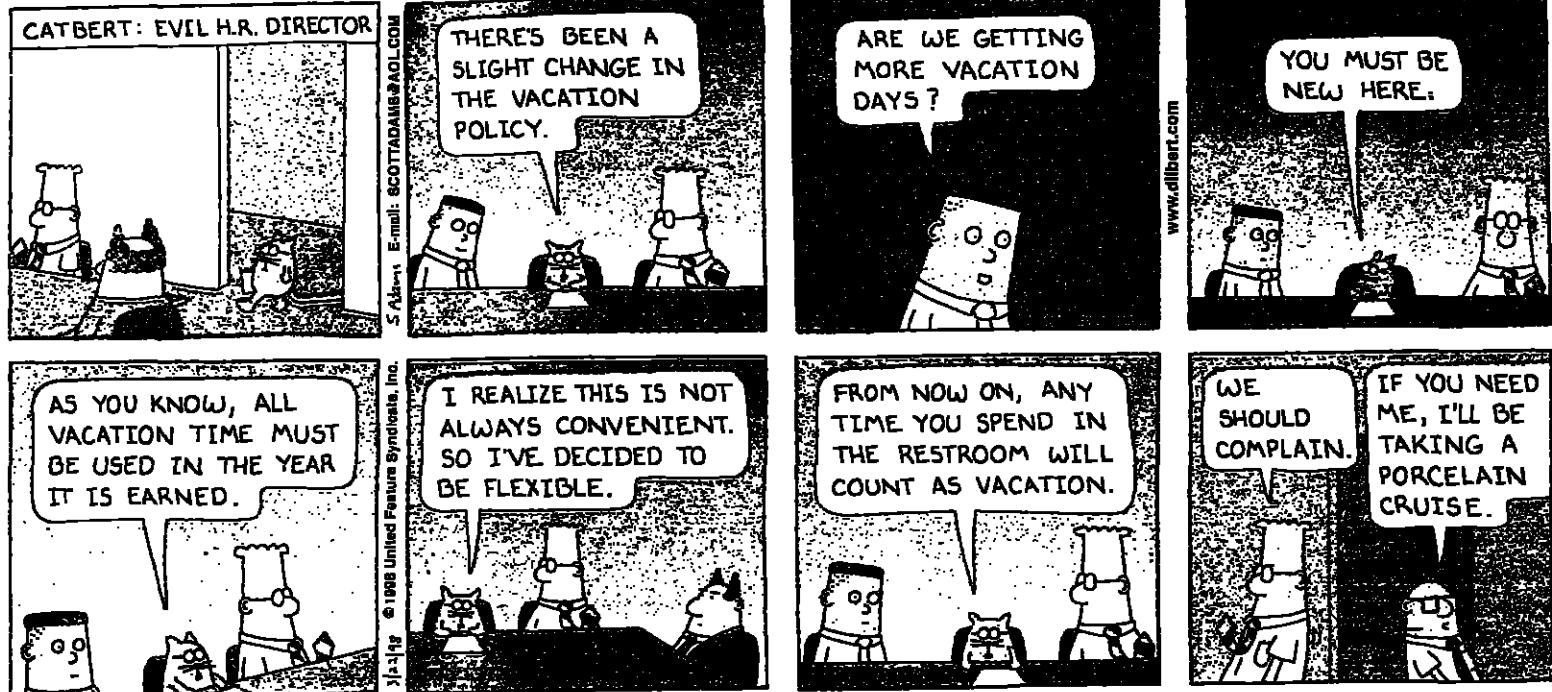
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GARFIELD

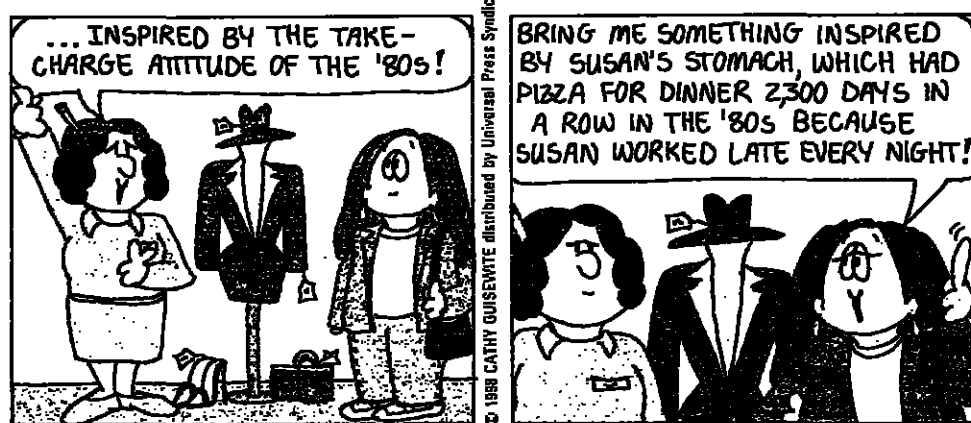
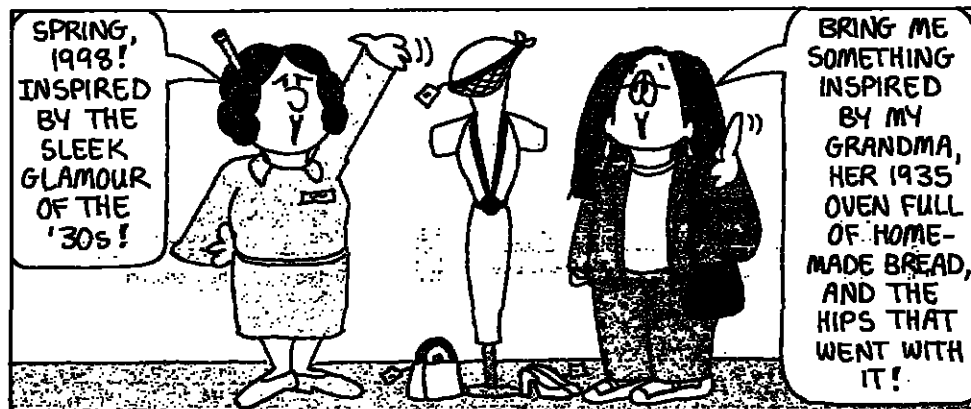


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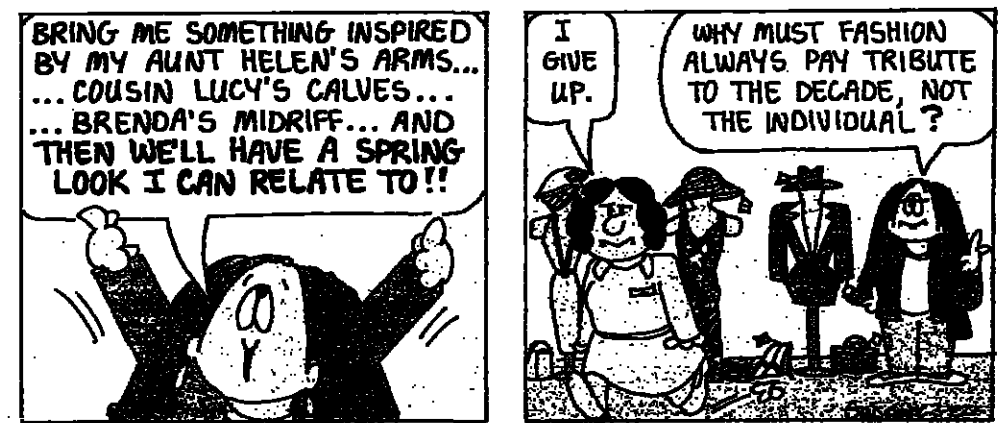
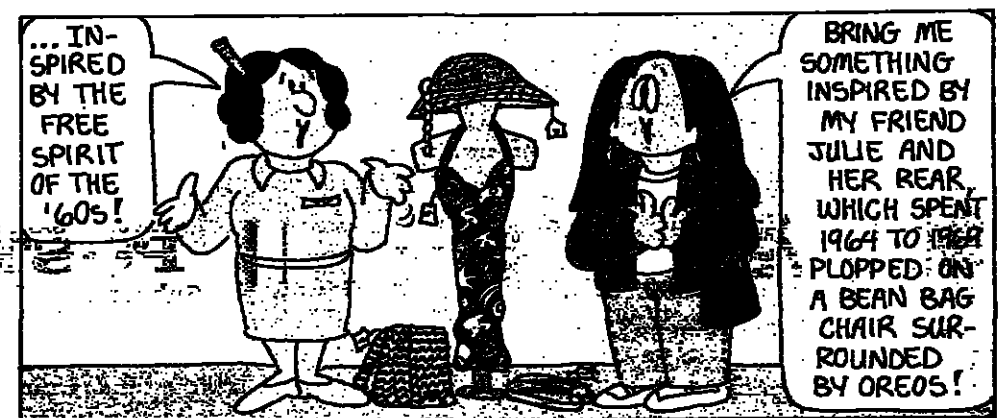


BY SCOTT ADAMS

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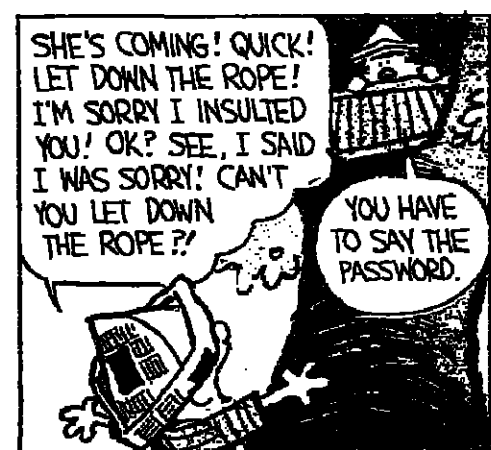


BY CATHY GUISEWITE



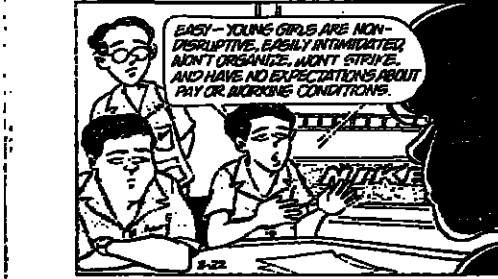
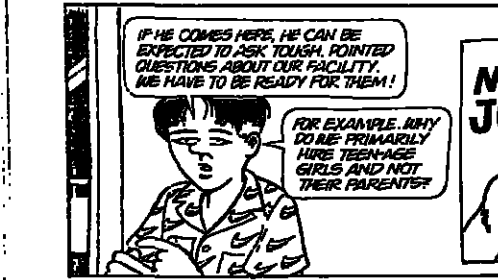
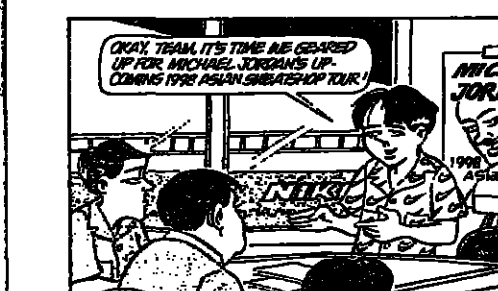
calvin and hobbes

by WATKINS



Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU



CRITICS' CHOICE

MUSICAL

HELEN KAYE

Ed Spitz stars as Tony in the Light Opera Group of the Negev's (LOGON) delightful production of Frank Loesser's musical *The Most Happy Fella*. It's directed by Waldman and choreography by Rosa Howden, who also plays Rosabella, the gal. Tony woos, wins and nearly loses. Tonight and tomorrow at the Beersheba Municipal Auditorium. Wednesday at the Wix Auditorium in Rehovot. All shows at 8:30 p.m. (Hebrew subtitles).

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The first stage of the Ninth Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition continues today (9 a.m. and 4 p.m.) at the Tel Aviv Museum with more young pianists, each playing a 40- to 50-minute free-choice recital.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

**** **WAG THE DOG** — It's less than two weeks before the presidential election and the Big He himself has been accused by an underage "furry girl" of sexual harassment. Ace spin doctor Conrad Brean (Robert DeNiro) is called in by the White House to do something, and fast. So he jets to L.A. and hires a sunnied and successful Hollywood producer, played with hilarious brio by Dustin Hoffman, to help the Powers that Be distract the public by manufacturing a war against Albania — a war, that is, that will never take place, except where it really counts, on the TV screens of America's vot-



Dustin Hoffman plays a Hollywood producer with hilarious brio in 'Wag the Dog.'

ers. Director Barry Levinson's smart-bomb of a political satire manages to be at once extremely funny and deeply disturbing in its portrayal of Washington as the greatest showbiz town on earth. The movie is slight, in its cynical way, but it stings. David Mamet and Hilary Henkin wrote the nimble script. With Anne Heche and Willie Nelson. (Parental guidance strongly advised.)

ETHNIC MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Oud player Yair Dillal, who also plays the violin and sings, leads his Al OI ensemble in their new show, Silan, which presents a combination of Mediterranean, Indian, Jewish and Arabic music traditions, performed on acoustic instruments ranging from the clarinet to the sitar and from Western percussion to the tabla. Tonight (9) at the Jerusalem Confederation House.

TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

8:30 News Flash
8:51 News in Arabic
9:00 Good Morning Israel
10:00 News
10:30 News Headlines
10:35 The Funniest People in America
11:00 Documentary
11:05 Maccabi
12:00 Rengade
12:00 News in English
12:30 Miniseries
13:00 Comedy Series
13:30 Drama

EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Wonderful World of Big Molecules
8:30 Science
9:00 Mathematics
10:00 Programs for the very young
11:00 Environment
11:30 Nature
12:00 Mathematics
12:30 Communications
13:00 Wonders of Animation
13:15 Fruits of the Earth
13:30 Animation
15:00 Pretty Butterfly

CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Super Ben and Zep 1
15:35 X Men
16:00 Super Guy
16:30 Zorro
16:59 A New Evening
17:34 Broadcast Mobile
18:10 Time for Language with Avshalom Kor
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Amal and Kamela Studio
19:00 News
19:30 News Flash
19:31 Home Improvement
19:35 Filmed on the Street
20:00 News
20:45 Truism — Part 13
21:45 World Champions — 11-part series on the history of soccer's World Cup
22:25 Filmed on the Street
23:30 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
6:00 Spiderman
6:30 Chico with Tel-Ad
6:45 Coffee with Tel-Ad
6:50 Ramal Adv. Gimmel
10:20 Prof — last episode
11:10 Thunder Alley
11:35 Empty Nest
12:00 Lach
12:00 Scrooges Oiler
13:00 Sport TV
14:00 Home and Away
14:30 Tic Tac
15:00 There's Only One Bossom
15:30 Barney's Friends
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:30 Different Driving
17:00 Five with Rachel
17:30 They Were All People — Rabbi Kook
18:00 Port Charles
18:00 Mobile Magic
18:00 Everybody Loves Raymond
18:30 Bruno
19:00 News
20:00 Tel-Ad OK
21:30 Fact
22:25 Bruno (cont.)
22:30 The Practice
23:00 Night Meeting
00:05 Night Meeting
00:25 Soap
1:00 Romance & Tom — story of the connection and her failed marriage to Tom Arnold
2:25 On the Edge of the Sheet

CHANNEL 3 (33)

9:00 Amores
10:00 Whirling Heights
10:50 Gudonov — some of the great dancers highlights
11:50 Marc Chagall
13:00 Isberg
14:00 Secret of Mint
15:15 Life Goes On — a look at Israel
16:00 Brave Children
16:30 Shov and Sweet
17:00 Weekly Column
19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 News in Russian
20:00 News
20:45 Superstar
21:15 Blah Blah
22:30 For Women Only
23:00 Supernatural: Mystic
23:30 Great Mysteries & Myths

ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Riding High
16:00 Everything's Open
16:30 World Youth News
17:00 Little Morocco
18:00 Mezzanotte
18:30 Radio Fever
18:30 Dealing with Dogs
19:00 The Wonderful World of Big Molecules
19:30 Vi & Vic
20:00 A New Evening
20:30 Media File
21:00 Bound for Glory
21:30 The Shape of Woody Guthrie
22:00 Upstairs Downstairs

CHANNEL 3

7:00 Good Evening with Guy Pine (pt) 7:30 Love Story with Yael Yonay (pt) 8:00 Superstar Search
8:00 One Life to Live
8:45 The Young and the Restless (pt) 10:00 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Dulce Ana
12:00 Love Boat
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:30 John Lombardi
14:00 Sunset Beach
14:50 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Murphy Brown
16:00 Dulce Ana
16:30 The Young and the Restless
17:00 Love Story with Yael Yonay (pt) 18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pine (pt) 18:30 Oscar Awards preview
19:00 Local broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless

JORDAN TV (G1)

(unconfirmed)
17:00 Holy Koran
17:10 Parashat
17:30 Coran the Adventurer
18:00 Don't Dream
18:00 Sippy

JERUSALEM CINEMA

19:30 Bordertown
20:00 Le Journal
20:15 Tour de France
20:30 News Headlines
20:35 The Funniest People in America
21:00 Documentary
21:05 Maccabi
22:00 Rengade
23:00 News in English
00:30 Miniseries
01:00 Comedy Series
01:30 Drama

MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)

11:30 Changed Lives
12:00 It Is Written
12:30 Hour of Power
13:30 Central Message
14:00 Take Your Finding
15:00 This Is Your Day
15:30 John Osteen
16:00 In Touch
16:30 The 700 Club
17:30 Tunes of Joy
17:45 Gospel Bill
18:15 Secret Adventures
18:40 Space Cases
19:05 Super Guy
19:30 Zorro
21:15 TV Bloopers
22:05 I-Witness Video
23:00 Rhonda
23:30 Rhonda
00:00 Net Talk

CABLE

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20:30 News Headlines
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22:00 Rengade
23:00 News in English
00:30 Miniseries
01:00 Comedy Series
01:30 Drama

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Incident in a Small Town (1983) — a lawyer defends his best friend, a retired judge, who is accused of murder. With Water Matheson
13:10 Follow the River (1985) — period drama about a pregnant pioneer woman and her two sons who are captured by an Indian tribe. With Ellen Burstyn
15:00 Remember Me (1985) — a young woman who has lost her child in a car accident is forced to confront her past when the family goes on vacation. With Kelly McGillis
16:30 Season of the Witch (1994) — a farmer is in crisis when his crops and marriage fail. With Joseph Williams
17:45 Lovers and Liars (1983) — short film by Griffin Dunne about a mother and her teenage son on a road trip. With Kate Capshaw, Toby McGuire, Uma Thurman, Kiefer Sutherland and Elliott Gould
18:50 White Justice
19:50 (1994) — a widow enlists a family friend to help her search for her missing husband. With Cyndi Lauper
20:50 Runaway Car (1995) — a group of people are caught in a nightmare journey in a car that cannot stop. With Peter Onorati
22:00 The Fisher King (1991) — Terry Gilliam's drama about a radio announcer whose life is shattered when a caller takes his advice and murders seven people. With Jeff Bridges, Amanda Plummer, Robin Williams, Michael J. Fox and Philip Noveck
23:00 (1995) — a social worker searching for a street girl falls in love with an artist
15:30 Zorro (1995) — adapted from Charles Foulton's play about a hoodlum who accidentally kills a little girl with his gun. With Kevin Costner, Cate Blanchett and CCH Pounder

CHILDREN (5)

6:30 Cartoons
8:40 Ask Victor
9:45 Sharkey and George
9:50 Sirdab the Sailor
9:50 The Smurfs
10:30 Flying Classroom
10:45 Cestral Dance
11:00 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Dulce Ana
11:45 Flying Classroom
12:00 Animations
12:20 Flying Classroom
12:45 The Arena (pt) 13:15 Dennis the Menace
13:30 Adventures in Videoland
13:40 Nattaline
14:05 Honey Bee Hutch
14:30 The Smurfs
15:00 Flying Classroom
15:15 Ninja Turtles
15:45 Superstar
16:05 Flying Classroom
16:15 Underdog Show
16:35 Flying Classroom

JERUSALEM CINEMA

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PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	Home Improvement Filmed on the Street	Bruno News	Beverly Hills 90210	Married With Children The Fresh Prince of Bel Air	Runway King	Rites of Passage
20:00	Thoma	It's Be OK	Clueless	Friends	Runway King	Riverain High
21:00	World Champions	Fact	Yair Lapid Live at 10	The Fisher King	Ma Vida Loca	Under the Valley and Up the Mountains
22:00	Bruno The Practice	Saintfield	Ricki Lake			Human Nature
23:00						

16:50 Migou
17:15 Animations
17:45 Lovers and Liars
18:30 The Secret World of Alex
19:00 On the Dot
19:30 Family Matters
19:50 Married with Children
20:15 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:40 Helen and the Boys
21:05 Sweet Valley High
21:30 Union Square
21:50 The Practice
22:00 Ricki Lake

12:30 Company of Animals (pt)
13:00 The Shop
14:00 NCAA Basketball: Regional Finals (pt)
15:00 The McLaughlin Group (pt)
16:30 Meet the Press
20:30 VIP (pt)
21:30 Mr. Rhodes (pt)
21:30 Union Square
22:00 The Ticket — European entertainment guide (pt)
22:30 World Star Adventure
23:00 Gillette World Cup '98 Preview (pt)
23:30 Inside PGA Tour
00:00 Tonight Show
1:00 Profile
2:00 NCAA Basketball: Regional Finals 3 & 4

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